

Document 3

From: Tarduogno, Matthew
To: Evans, Karen S; Lotto, Adrienne
Cc: Kenneth Buell (Kenneth.Buell@hq.doe.gov); Kumar, Puesh
Subject: Follow-Up on Denial of Service Incident
Date: Friday, March 08, 2019 5:59:00 PM

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

All,

I wanted to quickly follow-up on the denial-of-service (DoS) incident experienced by sPower, a company that owns and operators solar and wind generation assets in several states, that we noted this morning. I spoke with the operations manager of sPower this morning and the E-ISAC has also been in contact with the company.

On March 5, sPower noted a series of brief communication outages between their control center and their remote sites. Upon further investigation, the communications outages were determined to have been caused by firewall reboots. After consulting with Cisco, the firewall manufacture, it was determined that the firewall reboots were caused by a DoS attack exploiting a known vulnerability. Cisco recommended a firmware update, which sPower has been deploying across their system, after testing for compatibility. The DoS incident was observed intermittently over a 12 hour period and no further activity has been observed since this time. sPower has reviewed log files and has found no evidence of a breach beyond the DoS attack. Additionally, the incident did not have any impacts on operations.

When I spoke with sPower they did not expect to need any additional support or have any ongoing concerns; however, they will contact us if there are any issues. (b) (7)(E)

We have been providing DOE's Office of Intelligence and Counterintelligence with updates and they are ready to investigate any indicators, as appropriate, and have been checking for any related incidents. We will work with IN and the ISACs to provide appropriate information to the sector as available.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best Regards,

-Matt

Matthew T. Tarduogno
Infrastructure Security & Energy Restoration
Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, & Emergency Response
U.S. Department of Energy
Office: 202-586-2892 | Mobile: (b) (6)
Matthew.Tarduogno@hq.doe.gov
OFFICIAL USE ONLY