



CYBERSECURITY

DWAG September 2023

Why is Cybersecurity Important?

- Public Water Systems are frequent targets of malicious cyber activity.
- Potential to compromise the treatment or distribution of safe drinking water.
- Water Systems are vulnerable to:
 - Insider threats from current and former employees.
 - Ransomware attacks.

EPA Cybersecurity Memo

March 3, 2023 – Addressing PWS Cybersecurity in Sanitary Surveys or an Alternative Process.

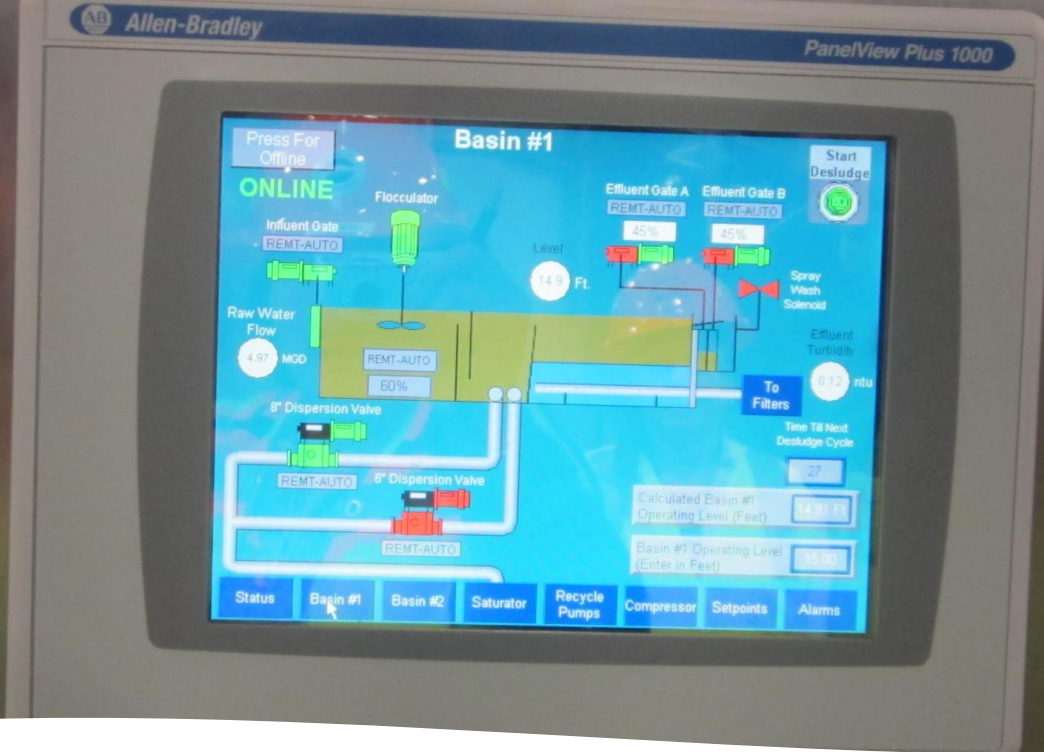
July 21, 2023 – Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals Stayed the implementation of the Cybersecurity memo.

Memo Requirements:

- Cybersecurity must be as part of the sanitary survey or other state program.
- Review includes cybersecurity practices and controls that could impact the supply or safety of the water provided to customers.
- State must identify and use authority to require water system to address cybersecurity significant deficiency.

Operational Technology

“Hardware and software that detects or causes a change through direct monitoring or control of physical devices, processes, and events in the enterprise.”



Cybersecurity Areas

- Account Security: General network security for staff accounts.
- Device Security: General security for computers and networks.
- Data Security: Security of logs and confidential data.
- Governance and Training: Who is responsible for cybersecurity and are staff trained on cybersecurity?
- Vulnerability Management: Firewalls and Patches of known vulnerabilities.
- Supply Chain/Third Party: Evaluate cybersecurity as part of procurement.
- Response and Recovery: Backs, reporting, and incident plans.

EPA Program Options

1 **Option 1**

Self or Third- Party Assessment: Water system makes assessment available to ODW to determine gaps

2 **Option 2**

ODW evaluates cybersecurity practices during sanitary survey

3 **Option 3**

Alternative state program that assesses cybersecurity gaps and requires controls to address these gaps.

Discussion Questions

WHAT SORT OF CYBER SECURITY PROGRAM
SHOULD ODW DEVELOP?

Discussion Questions

WHAT INFORMATION ON OPERATIONAL
TECHNOLOGY SHOULD ODW GATHER?

Discussion Questions

WHAT DO YOU NEED FROM ODW OR CISA?

Discussion Questions

WITH WHOM AT THE WATER SYSTEM SHOULD
ODW DISCUSS CYBERSECURITY?

Discussion Questions

OTHER CYBERSECURITY CONCERNS?



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