How Vulnerable am I, really?

Other threats to Water and Wastewater Facilities

Agenda

- Why are we here?
- Legislation Review
- One Potential Weapon
- What would happen if...
- "Top 10" Security Improvements

Review of Security Regulations

- Personnel and Building Standards
- Utilities
- Fire and Safety
- Water and wastewater facilities
- Engineering and security analysis
- Physical and "logistic" changes
- Small security elements of the overall

Terrorism and Tragedy

Review of Current Law

- Personnel and Building Standards
- Utilities
- Fire and Safety
- Water and wastewater facilities
- Engineering and security analysis
- Physical and "logistic" changes
- Small security elements of the overall
Review of Pending Legislation

- US House Bill 1129: pending for "National Defense Authorization Act 2022" and will be in the House by May 26, 2022, and 1040x256
- Legislation for VA and other department
- VA bill will be on the agenda this week
- Committee of improvement and development of VA

But ...

- The House version of the "National Defense Authorization Act" for FY 2023 is being considered by the House Armed Services Committee.
- Currently, the bill includes measures for the expansion of the VA's mental health services, support for veterans' housing, and non-emergency surgery pilot projects.
- However, it also cites the need for "increased specificity" in language to address certain VA needs.

Other Legislation of Interest...

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One Potential Weapon...

-Equs, or weapon to stop cars by using a cable or other means, such as a steel cable that can be used to stop a car in motion.
- High potential for monitoring.
- No operator training or skills required.
- Legal to own.
- May be available on the black market.
- Cost-effective.
One Potential Weapon...

Once inside...

Illega! Entry
- How many windows does your facility have?
- Are they visible from outside?
- Are they well lit?
- If one is broken, when will you find out?

What do these mean to you?
- Repair or replacement costs.
- Back-up or service problems.
- Possible costs to bypass pump or provide mains power.
- Loss of revenue, client confidence.

Bricks can even be used to sabotage your own security!

Access to hazardous areas.
- Climbing ladders
- Chemical facilities
- Attractive solutions
Worst case

- Injury to on-site personnel.
- Injury to the intruder.
- Release of toxic substances (e.g., gas).
- Illness from contamination.
- DEATH.

OK, so what should I do?

- Establish a reasonable budget that is acceptable to all players.
- Based on the results of the VA, select improvements that offer the best value.
- Consider security improvements as an ongoing endeavor.

And what happens if the intruder or others are hurt?

- Lawsuits from injured workers or employees.
- Public outcry.
- Possible litigation from the victim or the intruder's estate.

Top Ten List of Security Measures

- Originally developed by the EPA of New England, slightly modified here.
- Originally designed for small ground water supplies.
- Most are applicable to all small and small water systems, as well as other municipal facilities.

So, what can I do?

- Establish a reasonable budget that is acceptable to all players.
- Based on the results of the VA, select improvements that offer the best value.
- Consider security improvements as an ongoing endeavor.

10. Prepare or Update an Emergency Response Plan

- Develop an emergency response plan.
- Make sure the plan is up to date and includes all necessary emergency response procedures.
- Coordinate with local fire departments and other emergency service providers.
9. Post updated emergency 24-hour telephone numbers

6. Lock everything
- Look all gates and doors in the facilities are unbroken.
- Set alarms when available.
- On-site access keys to buildings or facilities.
- Did I mention a strict key control policy?

8. Coordinate with local law enforcement.
- A police and local law enforcement officials should know each other.
- Ask police to avoid alley and building access points.
- Make uniformed visible.
- Practice emergency response procedures.
- Provide law enforcement with the emergency contacts.

5. Install good security lighting
- Security lights
- Motion sensor

4. Know your suppliers and protect your supplies.
- Ensure proper security in the facility.
- Use good practices to protect against theft.
- Routinely patrol all facilities.

7. Install or use fences
- fence around plant and property access, where possible.
- Develop and enforce a strict key control policy.
- Use guard rails to protect against theft.
- Routinely patrol all facilities.
3. Know the neighbors.

Sources for more information

- USEPA
  - www.epa.gov/waterrisk
- American Water Works Association
  - www.awwa.org
- Water Environment Federation
  - www.wef.org
- Water Information Sharing & Analysis Center (Water ISAC)
  - www.waterisac.org

2. Identify staff, resources, and...

Questions or Comments:

- Elect. Pylons - major landscaping concern.
- Guards and very populated.
- Increased facility signage.
- Work with neighborhood managers to keep problem "in your eye" on "we are concerned".
- Call ALERT!

1. In case of an emergency, dial "911" then follow your ERP!

- Your utility staff are not trained security personnel.
- Your Emergency Response Plan (ERP) is easy to understand, follow and rehearse! See No. Where!