



ARIZONA CORPORATION

COMMISSION

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Commissioner Burns to Attend High Level Cyber-Security Briefing

(Phoenix) Commissioner Bob Burns will attend a classified briefing conducted by the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) on July 11th. The Commissioner will be briefed on cyber security. The briefing is a collaboration between the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) Office of Energy Infrastructure Security (OEIS) and ODNI's National Counterintelligence and Security Center (NCSC) with one-day read-in clearances provided by ODNI.

The potential of cyber-attacks on utilities is a growing concern around the world. Attacks on utilities can result in costly damage, long-term outages, and puts customers at risk for identification theft.

“We are in a very critical place right now,” said Commissioner Bob Burns. “As new technologies and more renewable energy sources enter the industry, the grid of the future is likely going to look very different. How we protect the customers now and through change has to be a top priority.”

Commissioner Burns is among only a few other regulators nationwide who will participate in the briefing.

OEIS was established in 2012 in recognition of the rapid growth and increasing sophistication of cyber and physical security risks and threats to energy infrastructures under the FERC's jurisdiction. The Director of National Intelligence position was created through the recommendation of 9/11 Commission Report. The Office was established in 2004 as an independent agency to assist the Director. The Office of the DNI's goal is to effectively integrate foreign, military and domestic intelligence in defense of the homeland and of United States interests abroad. The NCSC leads and supports the United States Government's counterintelligence (CI) and security activities critical to protecting our nation; provides CI outreach to United States private sector entities at risk of foreign intelligence penetration; and issues public warnings regarding intelligence threats to the United States.

Established by Article 15 of the state's constitution, the Arizona Corporation Commission is responsible for the regulation of public utilities, overseeing the incorporation or registration of companies wishing to do business in Arizona. Additionally, the Corporation Commission registers and oversees securities offerings and dealers, and enforces railroad and pipeline safety. The five commissioners that make up the Commission are elected by the people of Arizona for a four-year term, with the option of serving for two consecutive terms. To learn more about the Arizona Corporation Commission and the Commissioners, please check out <http://www.azcc.gov/Divisions/Administration/about.asp>

