

15 November 2019

Greg Miller
First Assistant Secretary Cyber Security Policy
Department of Home Affairs
Australian Government

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via: web submission

Dear Greg

Australia's 2020 Cyber Security Strategy

AusNet Services welcomes the development of Australia's 2020 Cyber Security Strategy and this opportunity to provide input.

AusNet Services operates Victoria's electricity transmission network, as well as one electricity distribution network and one gas distribution network in Victoria.

As a provider of essential energy services, AusNet Services places a strong focus on cyber security and is engaged with regulatory bodies and government agencies to ensure our cyber security posture and readiness for response is appropriate to the business and external factors. Our Security team actively engages across the Utilities industry and expect this will continue. AusNet Services' deep knowledge of the energy industry and our end-to-end network is critical to managing the cyber position for the business.

The Australian Government currently plays an important role in assisting businesses to defend themselves from cyber threats. The Government is well placed to provide input and knowledge on emerging threats and trends both in cyber criminal activities and state actors, as well as on available tools and techniques to best manage our cyber position. We welcome this review as an opportunity to identify ways to strengthen cooperation between industry and Government on cyber security.

The consultation paper notes concerns that "Government may be unaware of significant incidents that threaten Australia's national security or economic prosperity unless the company reports the incident or it is noticeable to the public" (p.8).

We would be pleased to meet with you or your team to talk further about our current practice with regard to reporting cyber incidents and additional ways that energy network owners, such as ourselves, can work with government to ensure there are no unnecessary barriers to protecting Australia's energy infrastructure from cyber threats. Please contact Katie Yates, Energy Policy Manager on ph. [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Mario Tieppo
EGM Technology
AusNet Services