

EMP Task Force on National & Homeland Security

From: David A. Moran

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To: David Borak

Designated Federal Officer
U.S. Department of Energy
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Date: 22 July 2023

Subject: Secretary of Energy Advisory Board July 2023 Meeting

To: David Borak,

We would like to thank the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board and you for allowing us to express our concerns and provide you with our suggestions. Our concerns stem from the real threats of Electromagnetic Pulse and Geo Magnetic Disturbance (EMP \ GMD) incidents. Such incidents will cause a catastrophic outage of the U.S. electric grid, seriously jeopardize national security, threaten critical life-sustaining services and, consequently, the well-being of millions of people. Costs could total trillions of dollars in lost revenue.

Protecting our electric grid from electromagnetic pulse (EMP) effects will increase the resilience against a wide spectrum of hazards. Known protections ensure the availability of reliable, resilient renewable energy, which is at the core of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (“BIL”) that is administered by the DOE. BIL grants will modernize the electric grid and reduce impacts of climate-driven extreme weather and natural disasters, while also ensuring power sector reliability that is needed to be prioritized and promoted with EMP Hardened concepts.

We would like to know:

1. What is the priority that is given to any EMP Hardened projects that are applying to DOE’s Funding Opportunities?



2. Have you instructed or given guidance to the Grid Deployment Office, Office of Clean Energy Demonstration that would provide EMP training for their Merit Reviewers or instructed them to higher for these types of projects?
3. Will you be administrating any contests for prize compensation that deal with EMP Hardening?
4. What was the reasoning for the Letter of Discouragement from the OCED's DE-FOA-0002970 Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas given to Energy Field Security's Salus Project? The Salus Project was an EMP Hardening Concept that has been proven by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), and evidenced by issuance of a Small Business Innovation Research compliance.
 - a. EMP Hardening Concept Project that is Minority Owned, Minority Run, and will help Migrant Workers.
 - b. Per Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government - The White House, uses the term "underserved communities" referring to populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life.
 - c. Per EJ 2020 Glossary | US EPA, overburdened communities are minority, low-income, tribal, or indigenous populations or geographic locations in the U.S. that potentially experience disproportionate environmental harms and risks as a result of greater vulnerability to environmental hazards, lack of opportunity for public participation, or other factors...The term describes situations where multiple factors, including both environmental and socio-economic stressors, may act cumulatively to affect health and the environment and contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.
 - d. Per Justice40 Initiative | Department of Energy, DOE's working definition of disadvantaged is based on cumulative burden and includes data for thirty-six (36) burden indicators reflecting fossil dependence, energy burden, environmental and climate hazards, and socio-economic vulnerabilities collected at the census tract level.
 - e. The Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool (geoplatform.gov) identifies disadvantaged communities as those that are underserved and overburdened in relation to one or more of eight categories of burden: climate change, energy, health, housing, legacy pollution, transportation, water and wastewater, and workforce development.
5. So why is this EMP concept being discouraged to participate?

Sincerely,

David A. Moran

C.C. Cynthia Ayers, Executive Director

The EMP Task Force for National and Homeland Security, 501 (c) (3)

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DIRE DELTA

Financial struggles create concern for city's hospital

By CHARLES ASHBY

Delta County Memorial Hospital is struggling to remain open.

Over the past four years, the hospital has recorded operating losses of nearly \$80 million, a net decrease of 7.2% in 2022 and 11.4% in 2021, according to an audit of the facility released late last month.

"The hospital has suffered recurring losses from operations and negative cash positions," the June 20 audit reads.

"These conditions raise substantial doubt about its ability to continue as a going concern."

The ailing hospital is controlled by the Delta County Memorial Hospital



DA appeals new trial for accused bomber

By SAM LAUBMAUS

San Juan County

The San Juan County District Attorney's office is opposing a judge's ruling that a man convicted of second-degree murder in a series of pipe bombs in the early 1980s can get a new trial.

Judge Richard Gurley ruled earlier this month that James Geurich, 60, will get a new trial after finding fault with some of the evidence presented at Geurich's original trial.