Protecting the Energy Sector

Gregorio Marrero

[Institutional Affiliation(s)]

Author Note

Protecting the Energy Sector

There should not be any doubt that the energy sector is the backbone of any state. Every sector of any government is linked, directly or indirectly, with the production and consumption of energy. The energy sector requires collaboration in both the public and private sectors, especially when the recent cyber threat is looming. This sector is deeply woven into the fabric of the society, consisting of thousands of units making energy from fossil fuels or nature-based units like solar and wind fields. The energy sector provides fuel to a state's communications, transportation, government, and urban infrastructures. This importance of the energy sector makes it the centerpiece of international collaborative efforts. Therefore, we witness a lot of working mechanisms when it comes to the protection of energy infrastructure, especially when it comes to natural calamities like tsunamis, hurricanes, and earthquakes. The US department of energy has already initiated several programs aimed at providing training to the personnel involved in this sector (Sorrell, 2015). These trainings include several areas, mainly, cybersecurity, public confidence, information sharing, and communications. The energy sector implements effective security measures to assess the security problems to this sector and come up with solutions to curtail serious long-term threats. The recent cyber-attacks are a noteworthy threat that needs to be addressed on a priority basis. Unfortunately, these threats are not addressed properly, even though it can be understood that crippling the energy sector of any state can make it an easy target on the battlefield. The recent Lazarus attacks in India's largest nuclear station can be seen as a proof that how easily a nation's energy sector can be targeting while sitting in front of a computer miles away (Staff, 2019). In short, for the safety of the energy sector, the states need to be vigilant and on the lookout for potential threats. The daily businesses of a state cannot run without the backing of a stable and powerful energy sector.

# References

Sorrell, S. (2015). *Reducing energy demand: A review of issues, challenges, and approaches.* Elsevier.

Staff, E. e. (2019, October 31). *Cyberattack on India's largest nuclear power plant confirmed.* Retrieved from Engineering and Technology: https://eandt.theiet.org/content/articles/2019/10/cyber-attack-on-india-s-largest-nuclear-power-plant-confirmed/