# IURC News Release

**Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission**
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**Indiana Utilities Serious about Cyber Security**
***IURC Encourages the Continuation of Dialogue and Collaboration***

INDIANAPOLIS – Today the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) concluded a two-day cyber security meeting with electric utilities and regional transmission organizations to discuss their efforts toward preparedness, mitigation, and resiliency in the event of a cyber-attack. State agencies were also present and included the Indiana Department of Homeland Security and the Indiana Office of Technology.

The consequences of a cyber intrusion for an electric utility can be disastrous, ranging from physical equipment damage to power outages to a breach of confidential and proprietary information. Consequently, IURC Commissioner Carolene Mays is championing the push for more dialogue, as the vice chair on the National Association of Utility Regulatory Commissioners' (NARUC) Committee on Critical Infrastructure.

"Cyber security threats challenge privacy, reliability, safety, and the resiliency of critical infrastructure systems," said Commissioner Mays. "It is one of the most important policy and technological issues that organizations must address."

With cyber-attacks becoming increasingly more prevalent, the IURC is encouraging the state's electric utilities to not only charge forward with their own plans to protect critical infrastructure, but to collaborate with one another.

"Although there is no panacea to cyber threats, we are stronger united than any one of us is individually," said IURC Chairman Jim Atterholt. "By facilitating coordination among state agencies and utilities, we can better protect Hoosiers from harm, and we are grateful that Commissioner Mays is helping lead this effort in Indiana."

The meetings were scheduled as confidential executive sessions under Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(13), which allows for discussions of information and intelligence intended to prevent, mitigate, or respond to the threat of terrorism. Indiana is one of the first states to engage stakeholders at this level.

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"As public utility commissions are charged with making decisions about systems vital to everyday life, NARUC and the Critical Infrastructure Committee have made cyber security a priority," said Commissioner Mays. "Our goal is to ensure stakeholders are having frank conversations about this issue at the state level and that attention is being directed toward securing critical assets."

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*The Commission is a fact-finding body that hears evidence in cases filed before it and makes decisions based on the evidence presented in those cases. An advocate of neither the public nor the utilities, the IURC is required by state statute to make decisions that balance the interests of all parties to ensure the utilities provide adequate and reliable service at reasonable prices.*

*For more information, please visit: www.in.gov/iurc.*