COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
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PENNSYLVANIA INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN NO. 131

30 AUGUST 2010

The Pennsylvania Office of Homeland Security produces this informational/intelligence bulletin specifically for all potentially-affected stakeholders – whether public or private sector, federal or Commonwealth of Pennsylvania-based Critical Infrastructures, Key Resources and Significant Special Events. Consider the information & intelligence contained herein in context with other known information, indicators, threats and warnings.

Successful intelligence analysis and sharing programs are not the result of top-down processes but rather the collective efforts of all stakeholders concerned. The Pennsylvania Office of Homeland Security urges all recipients – whether public or private sector - to provide information that might assist in the process to paintel@itrrintel.org.

POTENTIALLY-IMPACTED AREAS & SECTORS

AREA
Bethel Park (Allegheny County)
Conshohocken Borough (Montgomery County)
Cranberry Township (Butler County)
Damascus Township (Wayne County)
Erie (Erie County)
Harrisburg (Dauphin County)
King of Prussia (Upper Merion Township, Montgomery County)
Marcellus Shale Formation Drilling Sites
Newtown Borough (Bucks County)
Philadelphia
Pittsburgh
Plains Township (Luzerne County)
Plymouth Meeting (Plymouth Township, Montgomery County)
Upper St. Clair Township (Allegheny County)
Williamsport (Lycoming County)

Pursuant to the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001, Homeland Security Act of 2002, Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 and the National Infrastructure Protection Plan of 2009, critical infrastructure is defined as "systems and assets, whether physical or virtual, so vital to the United States that the incapacity or destruction of such systems and assets would have a debilitating impact on security, national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination of those matters." Pennsylvania applies the same logic and intent to define Commonwealth, county & municipality critical infrastructures and key resources.

SECTOR
Banking and Finance **Commercial Facilities** **Energy** **Government Facilities**[1]

DATES OF INTEREST

- **Current-31 August 2010:** The anarchist organization, **CRIMETHINC.**, is conducting what they have called "a decentralized convergence." Targeting communications indicate a focus on evading or sabotaging law enforcement.

- **Current-31 August 2010:** Black August, promoted by anarchists and Black Power radicals, commences; marking "the advances and sacrifices of Black Freedom Fighters," according to militant literature.

- **Current-31 August 2010:** In the general escalation in Irish republican terrorism, Marching Season in Northern Ireland is a period of several serious potential flashpoints for violence. Heightened situational awareness is called for among students and faculty participating in overseas educational programs in Northern Ireland – notably Millersville University and the Pennsylvania College of Technology.

- **31 August 2010:** The Philadelphia branch of the *International Action Center* (IAC),[2] *Free the Fort Dix 5* Support Committee[3] and *Project SALAM (Support and Legal Advocacy for Muslims)*[4] are planning to hold a rally advocating the release of five Muslims arrested in 2007 for plotting an attack on soldiers at Ft. Dix, New Jersey. The gathering is slated to take place at the federal courthouse in Philadelphia (601 Market St.).

- **31 August 2010:** In reaction to the planned US withdrawal of most combat troops from Iraq, anti-war groups led by Code Pink are planning to hold protests

[1] Educational Facilities Sub-Sector: Security directors, students and faculty of all Pennsylvania-based colleges and universities participating in educational exchange programs abroad need to remain cognizant of emerging, country-specific threats, indicators and warnings.

[2] http://www.iacenter.org/
[3] http://www.freefortdixfive.com/
[4] http://www.projectsalam.org/

nationwide.[5] The organization's Pittsburgh branch initially announced it was planning a local "action," however, analysts have not identified subsequent communications indicating such an event will take place.

- **Current-9 September 2010:** The lunar month of *Ramadan* is a period of fasting and reflecting for Muslims. During Ramadan, devout Muslims refrain from eating during daylight hours, generally concluding each day with a meal known as *Iftar*. Jihadists consider it an auspicious period for attacks in the name of Islam. In the midst of the Muslim holy month, Muslims mark *Lailat Al-Qadr* (Night of Power) on **5 September 2010**. Ramadan is followed by a three-day festival known as *Eid Al-Fitr*, starting on **10 September 2010**.

- **Current-4 October 2010:** The following meetings have been singled out for attendance by anti-Marcellus Shale Formation natural gas drilling activists:

  - **2 September** - a hearing on a proposed Marcellus Shale Formation gas drilling ordinance in Cranberry Township (Butler County)

  - **13 September** - a hearing on Marcellus Shale Formation gas drilling in the Pittsburgh City Council chambers (414 Grant St.)

  - **20 September** - a hearing in Damascus (Wayne County) on a proposed amendment to zoning regulations regarding drilling

  - **4 October** - a hearing on a proposed amendment to the township zoning ordinance to regulate oil and gas drilling operations in Upper St. Clair Township (Allegheny County)

- **3 September 2010:** A screening of the controversial *Gasland* movie is slated for the Piazza in Northern Liberties (near the Delaware River) in Philadelphia.

- **5 September 2010:** The Brandywine Peace Community,[6] the Atlantic Life Community,[7] and other anti-war and anti-nuclear activists, will be marking the thirtieth anniversary of the first direct action of the Plowshares Movement with protest actions in King of Prussia (Montgomery County).[8] Protesters are to meet outside the facilities of Lockheed Martin behind the King of Prussia Mall, "followed by a short car caravan through King of Prussia, with a stop at the nearby former GE plant (now: Lockheed Martin) ..."

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[5] http://www.codepink4peace.org/
[6] http://www.brandywinepeace.com/
[7] http://www.jonahhouse.org/ALC/index.htm
[8] http://www.plowshares.se/english/

Aggressive protest tactics are possible. Furthermore, as the anniversary of the Plowshares Eight "direct disarmament action" approaches, there is an increased risk of escalation in anti-nuclear and anti-war activism by other militant groups in Pennsylvania (See PIB no. 127 for additional potential targets of anti-war protesters).

- **8 September-1 October 2010:** The Jewish High Holiday season may present additional risk factors, with very high attendance at Jewish houses of worship and public gatherings in Pennsylvania. This year, the Jewish High Holidays fall on the following dates:

  - Rosh HaShanah - **8-10 September**
  - Yom Kippur - **17-18 September**
  - Sukkot - **22-24 September**
  - Simchat Torah - **29 September-1 October 2010**

- **10-11 September 2010:** The following meeting has been singled out for attendance by anti-Marcellus Shale Formation natural gas drilling activists: Pennsylvania Forestry Association, Genetti Hotel in Williamsport (Lycoming County).

- **11 September 2010:** Burn a Koran Day, initiated by Dove World Outreach Center in Gainesville, Florida, where the organization is intending to hold a massive Koran-burning bonfire.

- **12 September 2010:** Burn the Confederate Flag Day, targeted at the Tea Party and 9/12 movements, which are holding rallies on the same day. Proponents of the flag burning have call the Tea Party "racially divisive" and guilty of hosting an annual "hate fest."

- **13-15 September 2010:** The opening days of the trial of a well-known environmental activist, Tim DeChristopher, are expected to draw protesters to Salt Lake City, Utah, from across the US. Solidarity rallies are expected elsewhere; however, as of this writing, there is no specific information regarding planned protest actions in Pennsylvania.

- **17-19 September 2010:** Animal ACTivists of Philly is planning a protest against the Lulu Shrine Rodeo in Plymouth Meeting (Plymouth & Whitemarsh Townships, Montgomery County).[9] "This is the worst of the worst," the activist

[9] http://www.meetup.com/Animal-Activists-of-Philly/

material declares.

SECTOR-SPECIFIC THREATS, INDICATORS AND/OR WARNINGS

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

1. *Philadelphia: Day of Action Against Deportation*

A Day of Action Against Deportation is slated to take place at Independence Mall in Philadelphia today (30 August 2010) between 4 pm and 7:00 pm. The event is to include information booths, distribution of educational materials, short films, musical performances and several speakers.

The focus of the day is to be "the climate of fear and paranoia that Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) has created in Cambodian-American communities across the United States," according to organizers. "AND to call attention to the 47 Fathers, Husbands, Brothers, and Community Leaders recently torn apart from their families, to be deported at the end of August, and in September."

Activists have also cited their opposition to the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act (AEDPA)[10] and the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRAIRA).[11] They are calling for legal petitions of local and regional politicians to prevent further deportations of "Cambodian-American refugees."

******** ANALYSIS ****** T/I/W Rating: LOW**

Analysts believe law enforcement personnel will be called upon primarily to carry out duties of crowd control at the above-mentioned event. It is unknown whether the protesting groups have obtained the necessary police permits for the gathering.

BANKING AND FINANCE

2. *RAN: Pittsburgh Bank is a 'Black Eye' for Banking Sector*

The **RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK** (**RAN**) has cited the Pittsburgh-based PNC banking corporation as a financier of mountaintop coal removal (MTR) mining in West Virginia.
A RAN spokesperson said that PNC is "holding investments in businesses that are increasingly becoming a black eye for the financial sector." According to RAN, PNC has become the largest American bank funding MTR mining companies, including Massey Energy and several other companies.

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[10] http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c104:S.735.ENR:
[11] http://library.findlaw.com/1999/Jun/1/127033.html

******** ANALYSIS ****** T/I/W Rating: LOW-to-MODERATE**

Anti-coal mining activists and related organizations, including RAN, have recently been increasing training and actions targeting the coal industry and related industries. Training sessions in West Virginia and Virginia have focused on "skills and knowledge" regarding tactics for "direct action."

As noted in PIB No. 124, the anti-MTR campaign targeting banks has continued with communications focusing on the Swiss banking giant UBS AG. Praising their success in forcing the hand of most American banks regarding MTR financing, RAN declares, "It's time to finish what we started. Unlike most of its American counterparts, Swiss banking giant UBS AG is still in the MTR business." Analysts believe a similar approach is being adopted by RAN activists regarding PNC.

Facilities targeted by RAN in previous campaigns have been the scene of illegal actions including trespassing, lock-downs and vandalism. Considering the recent anti-MTR communications, and the claimed success of RAN tactics, analysts believe that protests or other actions may target UBS AG offices in:

- Philadelphia
- Pittsburgh
- Bethel Park (Allegheny County)
- Conshohocken Borough (Montgomery County)
- Erie (Erie County)
- Newtown Borough (Bucks County)
- Plains Township (Luzerne County)

- Any one of the dozens of PNC branches in Pennsylvania (an extensive list can be found here: http://www.usabanklocations.com/Pnc-Bank-Locations#Pennsylvania). Major regional headquarters and processing facilities include the PNC Bank Center in Philadelphia, the PNC Bank Eastwick Center near the Philadelphia International Airport, and PNC's corporate headquarters at PNC Plaza in Pittsburgh.

Other companies previously identified as targets of ecological activists were the coal companies directly involved in MTR coal operations, power companies that burn this coal and the offices of Duke Energy. In addition, precautions are called for at offices of the Department of Environmental Protection (see herein below), the Environmental Protection Agency and businesses in proximity to all the above-named institutions.

GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

3. *Climate Ground Zero Targets DEP for Direct Action*

On 26 August 2010 members of **CLIMATE GROUND ZERO**, a militant environmentalist organization, chained themselves to a concrete barrier set up at the entrance to the offices of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in Charleston, West

Virginia.[12] The activists, who called for the DEP to prevent mountaintop removal mining, were arrested for trespassing, obstruction of justice and disrupting government processes.

Significantly, the two protesters voluntarily disengaged themselves from the obstructing concrete barrier. They said it was because they did not want to keep one of only two ambulances in the city engaged by their activities.

Climate Ground Zero said they will continue to do everything they can to hold the DEP accountable for allowing mountaintop removal mining to continue. "DEP will be held accountable for its crimes against West Virginia," as one activist put it.

Climate Ground Zero will be among the environmentalist groups taking part in Appalachia Rising on 25-27 September 2010 in Washington, DC.

******** ANALYSIS ****** T/I/W Rating: LOW-to-MODERATE**

In a direct action similar to that cited above, on 14 July 2010 Climate Ground Zero and Mountain Justice activists locked themselves to mining equipment on Coal River Mountain, West Virginia, to protest mountaintop removal mining (PIB No. 115).[13] In a January 2010 communication shared among environmentalist militants it was said of Climate Ground Zero, "[M]ore actions are expected throughout 2010. It's going to be a kick ass year."

Analysts reiterate that anti-coal mining activists and related organizations have recently been increasing training and actions targeting the coal industry and related facilities. Training sessions in West Virginia and Virginia have focused on "skills and knowledge" regarding tactics for "direct action", while the Earth First movement has taken a turn to advocating more aggressive civil disobedience and sabotage.

Government offices and personnel charged with protecting the environment, including the DEP and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), have been repeatedly cited as vulnerable targets by eco-militants. In July 2010 (PIB No. 110), for example, the Rainforest Action Network held a sit-in at the Washington, DC, offices of the EPA. Similarly, activist calls for assistance in putting pressure on the EPA have already led to sympathetic protests at the EPA in Philadelphia (PIB No, 50).

The DC sit-in and the above-mentioned West Virginia blockade were relatively successful, easily accomplished and only required a minimum of activists. They both may serve as inspiration for similar groups and lone-wolf eco-militant cells seeking to obtain publicity for their respective causes.

In addition, researchers noted (PIB No. 68) a very different reaction to EPA regulatory decisions in Pennsylvania-based militia communications: "they're shutting down coal in [West Virginia] then they'll come for [West Pennsylvania] they

[12] http://climategroundzero.org/
[13] http://mountainjustice.org/

are waging war on our way of life ,our source of power, strength and our history as coal miners..the epa another nazi like government agency has declared war on the peoples of the blue ridge mountains. I say to the clans of WV and of WPA lets give them hell!" (*Grammar and spelling as in the original - ITRR*)

The EPA offices in Philadelphia and the Pennsylvania DEP headquarters in Harrisburg, seen as central to regional regulatory decision making, may see adversarial action ranging from lawful protest to serious sabotage-type terrorism. DEP and EPA personnel and security personnel for nearby facilities are advised to increase their situational awareness.

ENERGY

4. ENVIRONMENTAL EXTREMISM LIKELY TO BECOME A GREATER THREAT TO THE ENERGY SECTOR (*extract from FBI Bulletin, 23 Aug 10*)

Environmental extremists continue to target the energy industry by committing criminal incidents, primarily to oppose the fossil fuel industry. To date, the energy industry has encountered little more than vandalism, trespassing and threats by environmental extremists. But this pattern is beginning to morph - transitioning to more criminal, extremist measures actions. Based on several recent reported criminal incidents toward energy companies and affiliated industries or individuals, environmental extremism will become a greater threat to the energy industry owing to our historical understanding that some environmental extremists have progressed from committing low-level crimes against targets to more significant crimes over time in an effort to further the environmental extremism cause.

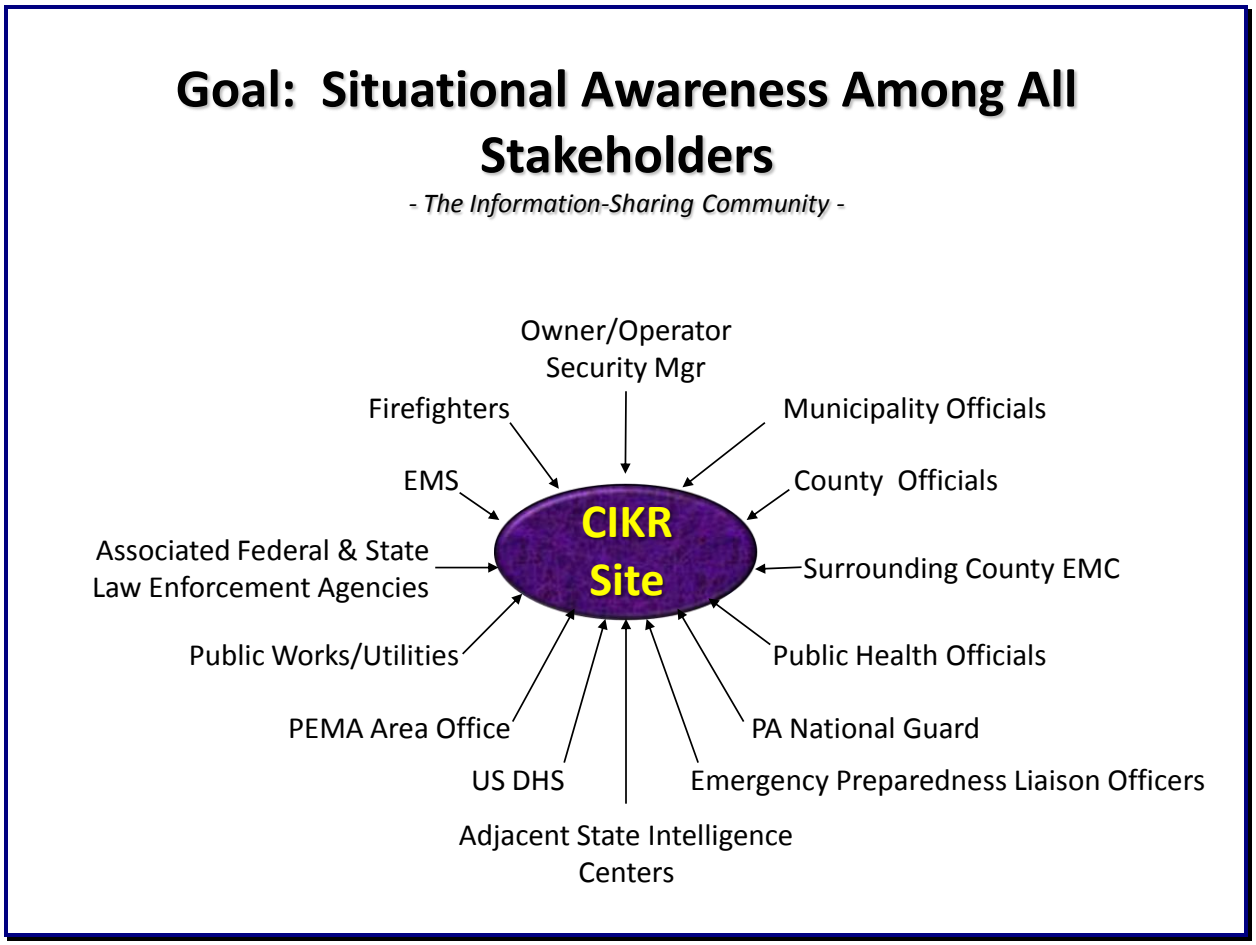
The FBI also assesses - with medium confidence - extremists will continue to commit criminal activity against not only the energy companies, but against secondary or tertiary targets. This assessment includes the use of tactics to try to intimidate companies into making policy decisions deemed appropriate by extremists. Previous incidents also seem to support this assessment.
Note: Lack of direct reporting on this issue prevents analysts from making a higher confidence level at this time.

Potential Impact on Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania has gained a prominent position in the production of natural gas from drilling operations within the Marcellus Shale Formation. Analysts expect that groups of environmental activists and militants on the one hand - and property owners, mining and drilling companies on the other - will be focusing their attention on one another in the future months as production increases.

There are no emerging Indicators, Threats and/or Warnings at this time for the following sectors:

- Agriculture and Food
- Chemical Industries
- Commercial Nuclear Reactors, Materials & Waste
- Critical Manufacturing
- Dams
- Defense Industrial Base
- Emergency Services
- Government Facilities[14]
- Information Technology
- National Monuments and Icons
- Postal and Shipping
- Public Health and Healthcare
- Telecommunications
- Transportation Systems
- Water

[14] Educational Facilities Sub-Sector: Security directors, students and faculty of all Pennsylvania-based colleges and universities participating in educational exchange programs abroad need to remain cognizant of emerging, country-specific threats, indicators and warnings.


Goal: Situational Awareness Among All Stakeholders
- The Information-Sharing Community -
Owner/Operator Security Mgr
Firefighters
Municipality Officials
EMS
County Officials
CIKR Site
Associated Federal & State Law Enforcement Agencies
Surrounding County EMC
Public Works/Utilities
Public Health Officials
PEMA Area Office
PA National Guard
US DHS
Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officers
Adjacent State Intelligence Centers

THREAT / INDICATOR / WARNING RATING	*DESCRIPTION*
LOW (Level 4)	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements currently have little intent or capability to take action against the target. Although it cannot be ruled out, an attack is unlikely based on currently available intelligence.
MODERATE (Level 3)	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements currently have the intent and capability to take action against the target. An attack is likely to be a priority and might well be executed.
SEVERE (Level 2)	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements currently have the intent and capability to take action against the target. Additional information is also available on the nature of the threat. An attack on the target is a priority and is likely.
CRITICAL (Level 1)	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements not only have the intent and capability, but also are actively planning to take action against the target within a matter of days (up to two weeks). An attack or action is imminent.

Source Summary Statement

The Institute of Terrorism Research and Response (ITRR) produces this document specifically for the Pennsylvania Office of Homeland Security in support of National Priority #3: Implement the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) and all public and private sector, critical infrastructure protection-related initiatives and strategies.

The ITRR, a commercial information research and analysis organization, uses open-source, human and closed-source intelligence resources to derive patterns, trends, indicators, assessments and time-sensitive products. The ITRR used only native-tongue researchers (English, Hebrew, French, Arabic and Spanish) in the collection, interpretation, translation, analysis and production of this product. The analysis is performed by former law enforcement officials, counter-terrorism experts and military intelligence personnel.

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