

COMMUNITY SYSTEMS DEPENDENCY DISCUSSION GUIDE

Community Systems Characterization

What are your community's critical functions – the functions that enable your community to remain viable?

- Agriculture
- Business
- Education
- Emergency Services
- Food/Water
- Government
- Healthcare
- Housing
- Manufacturing

What are the critical economic systems in your community?

What are the lifeline infrastructure systems in your community?

Energy

- Electric power – substations, transmission lines, generation facility
- Natural gas – pipelines, storage, extraction facility
- Fuel – storage, production facility

Water/Wastewater

- Water – treatment plants, pump stations, storage tanks, pipelines
- Wastewater – treatment plants, lift stations, main sewer lines

Transportation

- Road – highways, bridges
- Rail – rail lines, stations/hubs, yards
- Maritime – ports
- Airports

Communications

- Phone – cellular, landline
- Internet
- SCADA/Industrial Control System

as·set
noun
a useful thing

sys·tem
noun
a set of things working together as parts of an interconnecting network

Dependency Identification

What community functions depend on the identified lifeline infrastructure systems?

Are there specific infrastructure systems/services that are particularly critical to the continued operation of each function?

Does the function have an alternate means of operating if it lost the critical lifeline system/service upon which it is dependent?

- What plans/partners are in place to get alternate critical services (water, power, supplies, etc.) following a disaster?
- Are there redundant or backup critical system interconnects? (e.g., Community A gets its water from Water Company 1, but it also has a tie-in from Water Company 2 to receive additional water, if needed)
- How long can the community maintain operations using alternate services?

de·pend·en·cy

noun

relationship of reliance within and among systems that must be maintained for those systems to function or provide services

Recent Experience Illustration

Do you have any examples of infrastructure facilities or systems that have been damaged during a recent incident?

What were the consequences of that incident?

Did any other facilities or systems rely upon the affected facility or system for their operation?

How long did it take to recover the service provided by that facility or system?

Were there intermediate actions taken to restore service while permanent repairs were made?

Was consideration given to reducing the risk of future failure or damage through improvements made during recovery?