

August 28, 2017

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. President,

At the request of the National Security Council, the National Infrastructure Advisory Council (NIAC)—your CEO-level council for critical infrastructure insight and perspective—examined the aspects of cyber risk that must be addressed to greatly improve cybersecurity and resilience of our Nation's critical infrastructure. This study was designed as a scoping effort to inform a more targeted cyber study, which the NIAC began in May. As part of a parallel effort, we identified ways to improve the NIAC's processes to make our recommendations more timely and impactful, and identified potential topics that could be examined in future studies. On behalf of the Council, we are pleased to submit a combined report that reflects the outcome of these parallel efforts.

The *NIAC's Cyber Scoping Study* (attached) provided the foundation the Council needed to respond to a separate tasking issued on May 15, 2017 to examine how existing Federal authorities and capabilities could be applied in the private sector to improve cybersecurity of the most critical infrastructure assets. We were also able to immediately implement the process improvements identified in the *Strengthening the NIAC Study Process* report (attached) to respond more quickly and present our recommendations more concisely for senior leaders. While two separate studies, these efforts were very much linked and have allowed the NIAC to complete a separate study, *Securing Cyber Assets*, in just three months.

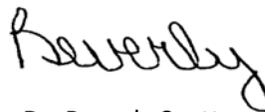
Cyber risks to critical infrastructure are severe, and urgent action is needed. Cyberattacks on energy, finance, communications, transportation, and water, in particular, can disrupt vital services, threaten human health and safety, and trigger widespread disruption across industries and regions. If our Nation is attacked on a large scale, our ability to function would be greatly compromised. Despite recent improvements in cybersecurity, the private sector is unable to keep up with rapidly escalating cyber threats from criminals, terrorists, and nation-states.

On behalf of our fellow NIAC members, we thank you for the opportunity to serve our country through participation in this Council.

Sincerely,



Constance Lau  
President and CEO  
Hawaiian Electric Industries, Inc.  
NIAC Chair



Dr. Beverly Scott  
CEO  
Beverly Scott Associates, LLC  
NIAC Co-Chair