



NEW CYBERSECURITY REQUIREMENTS



FOR PUBLIC WASTEWATER UTILITIES

“**Strengthening cybersecurity is not optional—it’s a core part of protecting your community.**”

Utilities rely heavily on digital systems that can be exploited and vulnerable to cyberattacks. These incidents are increasing nationwide, and Indiana utilities are no exception. Hackers can disrupt wastewater treatment processes, disable monitoring systems, alter chemical concentrations, and cause service interruptions with environmental or public health consequences.

New cybersecurity laws went into effect in July 2025 to help utilities prevent avoidable breaches, respond quickly when incidents occur, and maintain continuous, safe operations. These requirements are mandatory for any publicly owned wastewater treatment plant that uses SCADA, PLC/HMI or any other computerized system to monitor or control processes.

OVERVIEW OF NEW REQUIREMENTS

1

Vulnerability Assessment

Complete at least one cybersecurity vulnerability assessment each calendar year using a tool or framework recognized by IDEM or Indiana Office of Technology (IOT).

First assessment is due Dec. 31, 2026.

2

Biennial Certification

In even-numbered years, utilities must certify to IDEM that

- They completed the annual assessment;
- Vulnerabilities were mitigated or have documented mitigation plans; and
- The emergency response plan has been updated to account for cyber risks.

First certification is due Dec. 31, 2026.

3

Cyber Incident Reporting

Report **any** cyber incident using the IOT Online Incident Reporting Form within 24 hours if operations are affected or within two business days if operations are not affected.

4

Annual Designation of Cyber Incident Contact

Annually submit the name and contact information for wastewater utility's primary cybersecurity incident reporter to IDEM by **Sept. 1**.

You do not have to navigate this alone. IDEM has more information online, including reporting and planning tools and links to other resources from the US EPA and the US Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency.

**For More Information and Tools
Visit our website or scan the QR CODE.**



CYBERSECURITY RESOURCES

Web: on.IN.gov/idem-cyber **Email:** OWQCybersecurity@idem.IN.gov

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT