From: Houda, Tara
To: Smith, Brian
Cc: Parker, William
Subject: FW: Follow Up Regarding Water Utility Compromise
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2021 10:07:55 AM

When I spoke with Brandon at WSD this morning he sent me the below information & did not have any needs from us as this time.
This might be something we want to share with Jeaneanne for additional awareness, though she has already been provided the Statement & Background parts at the bottom.

From: Carter, Brandon <Carter.Brandon@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 9:35 AM
To: Houda, Tara <Houda.Tara@epa.gov>
Cc: Travers, David <Travers.David@epa.gov>
Subject: Follow Up Regarding Water Utility Compromise

Good morning Tara,

Thanks for reaching out this morning. WSD is still working with to gain more insight and learn details of the recent water utility compromise in Florida. As we learn more we will share accordingly. See below for information that we currently know. Please note the information in the following summary is FOUO and considered close hold.

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The summary below should be considered close hold and only disseminated inside the Federal Government to those with an active role or responsibility for the response.

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If you have any questions or need any additional information, please give me a call.

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Additionally, the statement below is our official release for press inquiries:

"ON BACKGROUND TO REPORTER: The investigation is underway and is being coordinated by the FBI with state and local authorities. EPA recommends contacting the FBI for details.

STATEMENT
instances like this one in Oldsmar underscore the importance of vigilance by water utility employees and staff in addressing the threat of cyber intrusions. EPA has tools to assist water and wastewater utilities in preparing for, identifying, responding to, and recovering from cyber-attacks. EPA works closely with the water sector industry and other federal, state, local, tribal and territorial, and private sector partners. To provide utilities with the most current resources, EPA has developed a website that utilities can reference to find the most updated alerts, information, and tools that may be used to improve cyber resilience. For more visit: https://www.epa.gov/waterriskassessment/epa-cybersecurity-best-practices-water-sector

BACKGROUND ON EPA'S ROLE
Under Presidential Policy Directive 21: Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience, EPA is the designated sector-specific agency (SSA) for ensuring the nation's water sector is prepared for any hazard, including cyber threats. The water sector is one of four of the 16 critical infrastructure sectors considered Critical Lifelines because communities generally cannot function without their services. During a cyber incident, EPA partners with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to assist the affected water utility by offering technical assistance to protect assets, mitigate vulnerabilities, and assess and reduce impacts."

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