5161 George Street
Royal Centre, Suite 400
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 1M7

Office of the Auditor General
Nova Scotia

Audit of Critical Infrastructure Resiliency

Overall Conclusion:
- Executive Council has not assigned responsibility for a provincial critical infrastructure program
- Province has not identified CI owned by government nor the owners of private sector critical infrastructure

National Strategy for Critical Infrastructure

Overall Conclusion:
- No plan in place to meet objectives of the National Strategy

Examples:
- EMO agreed to the National Strategy in 2009
- No implementation plan
- One meeting held to date
- Many departments not aware of National Strategy for Critical Infrastructure
- Province is not using the available federal government information sharing site

Recommendations
1. ECO should assign formal responsibility for CI
2. Make plans to meet National Strategy

Critical Infrastructure Owners in the Province

Overall Conclusion:
- Province has not identified all owners whose critical infrastructure impacts Nova Scotians

Examples:
- EMO's list of critical infrastructure partners is incomplete
- Some departments have partial lists which could be a starting point
- DHW maintains list of CI in health sector, other 9 sectors are lacking
- Communication weaknesses identified with government's responses to 2015 fuel disruption and 2014 post-tropical storm Arthur

Recommendation
3. For remaining 9/10 sectors, identify and make partnerships with operators of CI

Critical Infrastructure Owned by the Province

Overall Conclusion:
- Province has not identified CI it owns beyond the health sector
- Risk assessments are inconsistent

Examples:
- Only Health has good lists and risk assessments for its CI
- TIR has a plan to protect Hayden Lake water treatment facility, but have not considered interdependencies with other CI
- TIR has not done risk assessments on Canso causeway or critical part of highway 104
- Internal services only considered some risks to 10 of 89 towers used for emergency

Recommendation
4. Identify all CI and do an all-hazards risk assessment