



**Homeland
Security**

Dams Sector Suspicious Activity Reporting

Suspicious activities are anomalous behaviors that may be associated with pre-operational/preparatory surveillance, operational activities exploring or targeting a sector facility or system, or any possible violation of law or regulation that could compromise a sector facility or system, thereby causing an incident jeopardizing life or property.

Background

The Dams Sector developed an online tool within the Homeland Security Information Network-Critical Infrastructure (HSIN-CI) Dams Portal to provide sector partners with a mechanism to submit Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs). This online tool reports and retrieves information pertaining to suspicious activities that may be associated with pre-incident surveillance, activities exploring or targeting a critical infrastructure facility or system, or any violation of law or regulation compromising the facility or system and/or jeopardizing life or property.

This online tool is not intended to replace existing agency or organization reporting mechanism; all SARs should be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Rather, this online tool enhances these reporting mechanisms by providing a broader horizontal approach to reporting suspicious activities. Oftentimes agency or organizational suspicious activity reporting is kept internal, thus restricting situational awareness across the sector. The SAR online tool is a corrective to this, functioning as an extra opportunity for real-time situational awareness.

The SAR tool within the HSIN-CI Dams Portal offers sector partners the opportunity to better understand the implications of nationwide incidents. Partners can examine reports from a broad range of sector stakeholders and can subsequently determine any need to implement protective measures. In addition to enhancing situational awareness among Dams Sector partners, intelligence components from various Government agencies receive SAR information for further analysis.

Types of Suspicious Activity

The SAR online tool provides Dams Sector partners with the capability to report various types of suspicious activities, including:

- Acquisition of Expertise
- Aviation Activity
- Breach or Attempted Intrusion
- Cyber Attack
- Eliciting Information
- Expressed or Implied Threat
- Materials Acquisition or Storage
- Misrepresentation
- Observation or Surveillance
- Photography
- Sector-specific Event
- Sabotage, Tampering, or Vandalism
- Theft, Loss, or Diversion of Materials
- Testing or Probing of Security
- Weapons Discovery

SAR Online Tool

Dams Sector partners can access the SAR Online Tool through the Dams Sector SAR online tool link, available through the HSIN-CI Dams Portal. Reports submitted via this online tool will be available to the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and to appropriate stakeholders across the sector.

Contact Information

For more information pertaining to this effort, please contact the Dams Sector-specific Agency at dams@hq.dhs.gov.