



**Homeland  
Security**

# The Protected Critical Infrastructure Information Program

Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII) is a program that protects infrastructure information voluntarily shared with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to be used for homeland security purposes. Through the Critical Infrastructure Information Act of 2002, PCII in the Government's hands is protected from disclosure.

## Protections

PCII cannot:

- Be disclosed through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request or through a request under a similar State, tribal, or territorial disclosure law.
- Be disclosed in civil litigation.
- Be used for regulatory purposes.

PCII may only be used:

- By a Federal, State, local, tribal, or territorial government employee or contractor who has taken PCII training.
- For homeland security purposes.
- With a need-to-know that particular information for their official duties.

PCII is specially marked and must be safeguarded, both physically and electronically, under specific procedures to avoid any improper disclosures. All of these protections ensure that submitted information is protected, whether containing critical homeland security-related or sensitive/proprietary private sector information.

## Uses

DHS uses PCII to identify vulnerabilities, mitigation strategies, and protective measures, which are often shared with the asset owner/operator in question. DHS provides an array of services and products with asset owners/operators to help them protect the Nation's critical infrastructure, and PCII is a key component in these efforts. DHS programs that use PCII include the Enhanced Critical Infrastructure Program, Site Assessment Visit Program, Computer-Based Assessment Tool, Automated Critical Asset Management System, and a series of sector-specific voluntary self-assessment tools. PCII also allows DHS to collect cyber attack, risk, and vulnerability information to protect the Nation's cyber infrastructure. PCII protections allow access to a vast amount of data necessary to detect, deter, and defend against national threats.

## Contact Information

Visit our Website at [www.dhs.gov/pcii](http://www.dhs.gov/pcii) for more information. Please contact us via email ([pcii-info@dhs.gov](mailto:pcii-info@dhs.gov)) or phone (202-360-3023) if you have any questions or concerns.

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