



# Assessment and Coordination of DER Cybersecurity Standards

July 2024

*Changing the World's Energy Future*

Megan Jordan Culler, Chelsea Neely, Danish Saleem, Jenna deCastro



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# **Assessment and Coordination of DER Cybersecurity Standards**

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# Assessment and Coordination of DER Cybersecurity Standards

DOE Grid Modernization Initiative

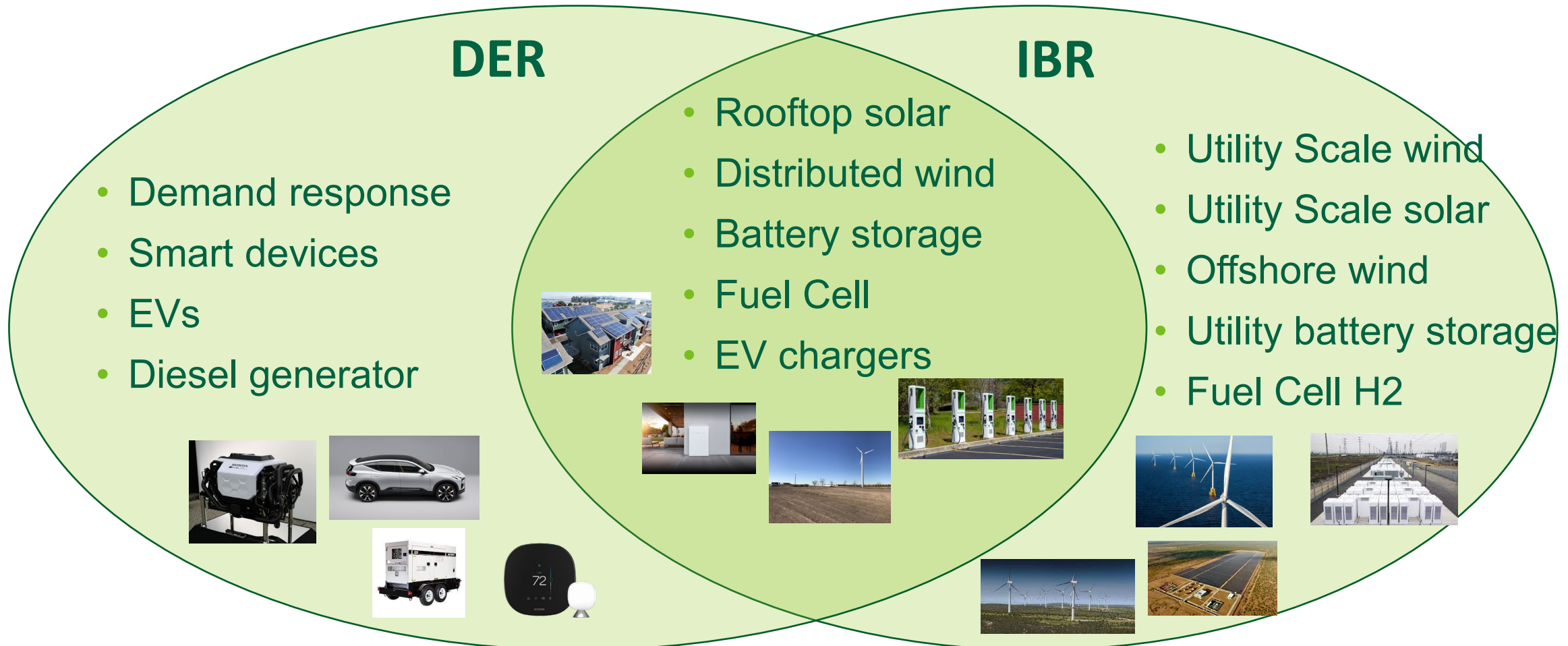
Megan Culler | Idaho National Laboratory

# What is a distributed energy resource (DER)?



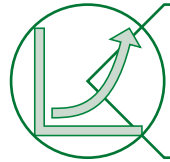
# What is a distributed energy resource (DER)?

For us: DERs are any energy resource connected at the distribution level at 20MW and under.

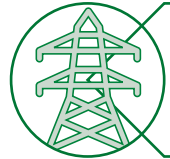


# Need for DER Cybersecurity Standards

## Why do we care about this niche topic?



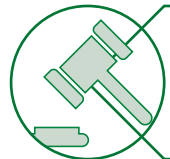
Rapidly developing technology



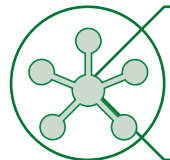
Increasing reliance on DERs for grid stability



Diverse and complex stakeholder landscape



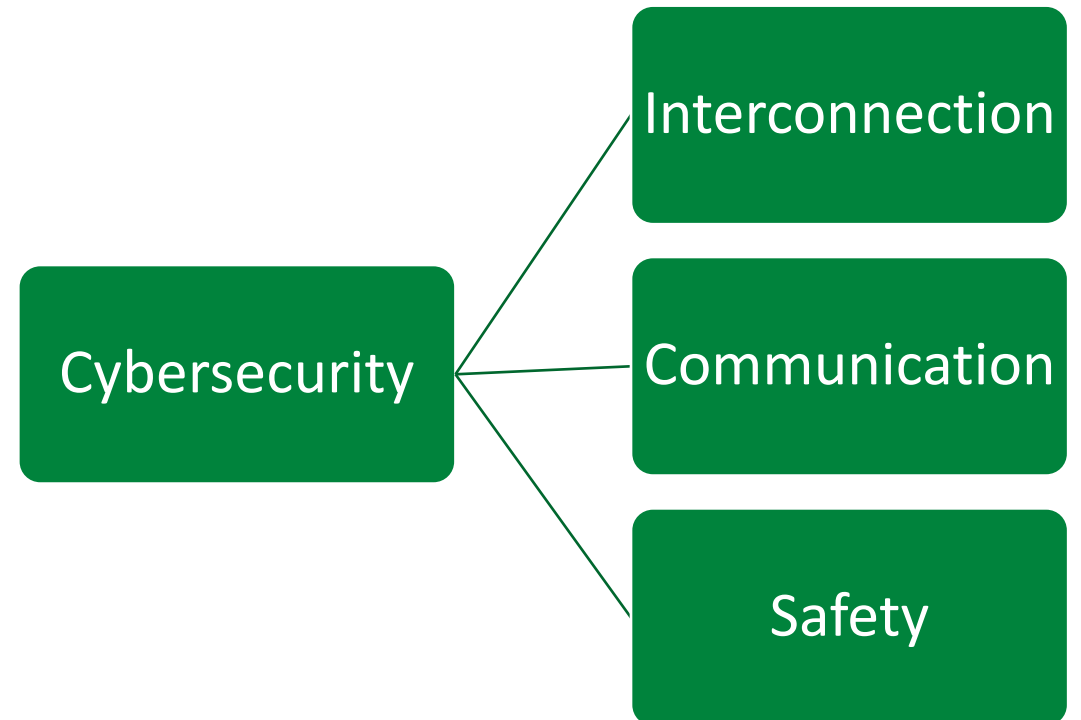
Not in reach of federal regulation



Distributed and digital go hand-in-hand

# DER Cybersecurity Standards

- Few standards directly address cybersecurity for DERs
- Some broader cybersecurity standards apply
- Adjacent areas may include cybersecurity requirements



# DER Standards Library

Key questions to answer with the library:

- What do they apply to?
- How are they commonly used?
- Where are they commonly used?
- How do they tie to one another?

## Cybersecurity

IEEE 1547.3

UL 2941

NIST SP 800-82

IEEE P2658

ISO/SAE 21434

## Interconnection

IEEE 1547

IEEE P2800

IEC TR 62351

CA Rule 21

Hawaii Electric  
Rule 14H

## Communications

IEC 61850

IEEE 1815 (DNP3)

Modbus

IEEE 2030.5

REST

Open ADR

## Safety

UL 1741

UL 9540

IEC 62109-1

IEEE 2030.2

# Sample of DER Cyber Standards Database + Data Dictionary

Categories were chosen based on relevancy to the user of the library and are meant to add value to the standards library.

- Standard Name/Number
- Issuing Organization
- Last updated
- Next release expected
- Standard Type
- Function
- Applicability to DER Type
- Encryption type
- Device Authentication
- Key Exchange Algorithms
- Specific Requirement
- Criteria for applicability
- Nationality of Standard
- Compliance Notes
- Source/Link
- Keywords

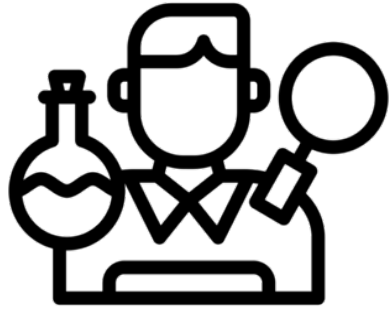
GMI Cyber Standards - Saved

Search for tools, help, and more (Alt + Q)

L10

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	
	Governing Body	Standard	Title	Working Group	Family	Obligation to Comply	Current Revision	Future Revision	Standard Type	Geography	
1	IEC	IEC 62351	Power systems management and associated information exchange - Data and communications security	IEC TC57 WG15, cybersecurity standards for power system communications	62351	conformance testing available for Part 3, Part 4, Part 5, Part 6	variable based on subsection		2025	Conformance standard	International
2											
3	ISA/IEC	ISA/IEC 62443	Security of Industrial Automation and Control Systems	ISA99 committee	62443	A series of knowledge-based certificates assures conformance to the ISA/IEC 62443 family of cybersecurity standards. Based on security requirements published in the ISA/IEC 62443 series of standards, the certification schemes demonstrate suppliers' commitment to protecting products and systems from a variety of cybersecurity threats.	variable based on subsection	variable based on subsection	Conformance standard	International	
4	IEEE	IEEE 1686™-2022	Standard for Intelligent Electronic Devices Cybersecurity Capabilities	Power System Communications and Cybersecurity Committee S1 Working Group, IEEE Power and Energy Society	N/A	Conformance to standards evidenced through IEEE 1686-2022 Table of Conformance	2022	unknown	Conformance standard	International	
5	IEEE	IEEE 2030.5™-2018	IEEE Standard for Smart Energy Profile Application Protocol	Smart Energy Profile 2.0 Working Group, IEEE Communications Society	2030	California's Rule 21 requires (as of June 22, 2020) all behind the meter systems submitting grid interconnection applications with one of California's Investor Owned Utilities (IOUs) will find new guidelines on the grid interconnection application that require Rule 21/IEEE 2030.5 compliant smart inverters. All other jurisdictions are certified through IEEE 2030.5 / SunSpec Common Smart Inverter Profile (CSIP) Conformance Tests	2018	2023 (IEEE 2030.5-2023 draft standard approved by standards board)	Protocol certification standard	International	
6	IEEE	IEEE C37.240	IEEE Standard Cybersecurity Requirements for Substation Automation, Protection, and Control Systems	PC37.240 Cyber Security Standard WG	PC37	voluntary standard. Unclear testing or conformance requirements.	2014	unknown	Conformance standard	International	

# User groups for the Standards Library



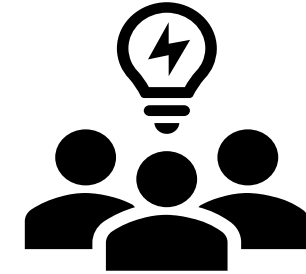
Lab researchers



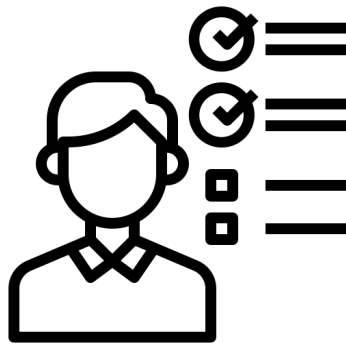
Government/DOE



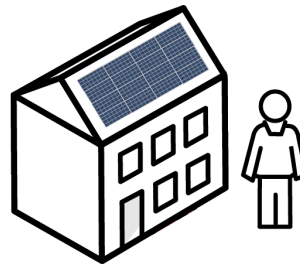
Manufacturers



SDOs



Regulators



Asset owner/  
operator; utility



Developer/integrators/cont  
ractors

# User stories for the Standards Library (so far)

*As an SDO/manufacturer/developer I want to figure out what cybersecurity standards and requirements apply to DER assets.*

*As a library user I want know when a standard last updated so I can choose the right standard and participate in future revisions.*

*As an SDO, I want to understand what other SDOs are creating to avoid duplication and find opportunity to address security gaps.*

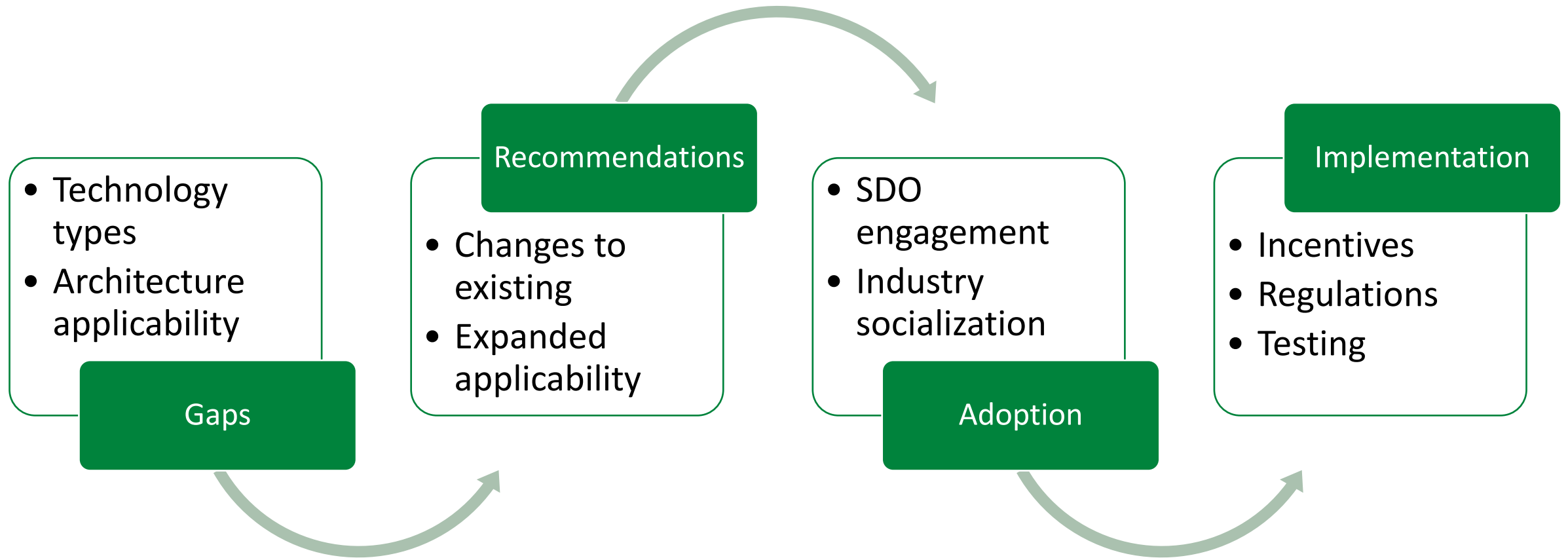
*As a manufacturer, I want to understand the details of the standards ecosystem so I can decide what level of security I should provide.*

*As a manufacturer/asset owner, I want to understand my options or tradeoffs in design when comparing different standards so that I can optimize resources.*

*As a lab/DOE/regulator I want to understand the nexus to cybersecurity in related standards (communications, interconnection, safety, etc) to harmonize requirements and advance DER security.*

*As DOE/lab I want to...*

# What does standards harmonization look like?

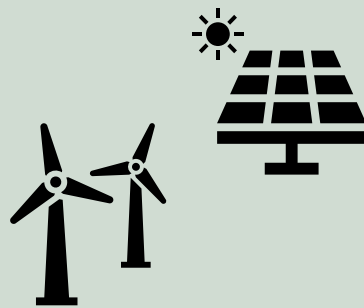


# Gaps in standards coverage

## Using the library to inform a harmonization strategy

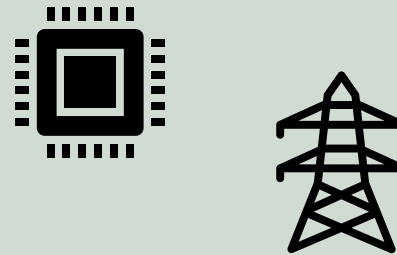
### Technology adoption

- e.g. wind commonly uses IEC 61850, but solar commonly uses Modbus



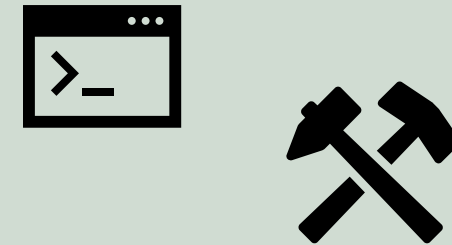
### Architecture applicability

- e.g. device standards and interconnection standards may leave gaps in local communications network design



### Technology development

- Software development
- Device design
- Supply chain
- Manufacturing



# Cyber-Informed Engineering (CIE)

## Identifying recommendations for addressing gaps

- CIE deepens the cybersecurity protections for critical infrastructure by providing guidance to allow defenses from cyber attack to be engineered in from the early design lifecycle of infrastructure systems.
  - Mitigate worst consequences of cyber-attack
  - Proactively secure existing infrastructure
  - Uses design decisions and engineering controls to prioritize defenses



**CIE systems engineering lifecycle model**

# Cyber-Informed Engineering (CIE)

- Standards can be used to inform mitigations associated with many of the CIE design principles
- Some controls need to be customized to the deployment

## CIE Design Principles

Consequence focused-design

Engineered controls

Secure information architecture

Design simplification

Layered defenses

Active defense

Interdependency evaluation

Digital asset awareness

Cyber-secure supply chain controls

Planned resilience

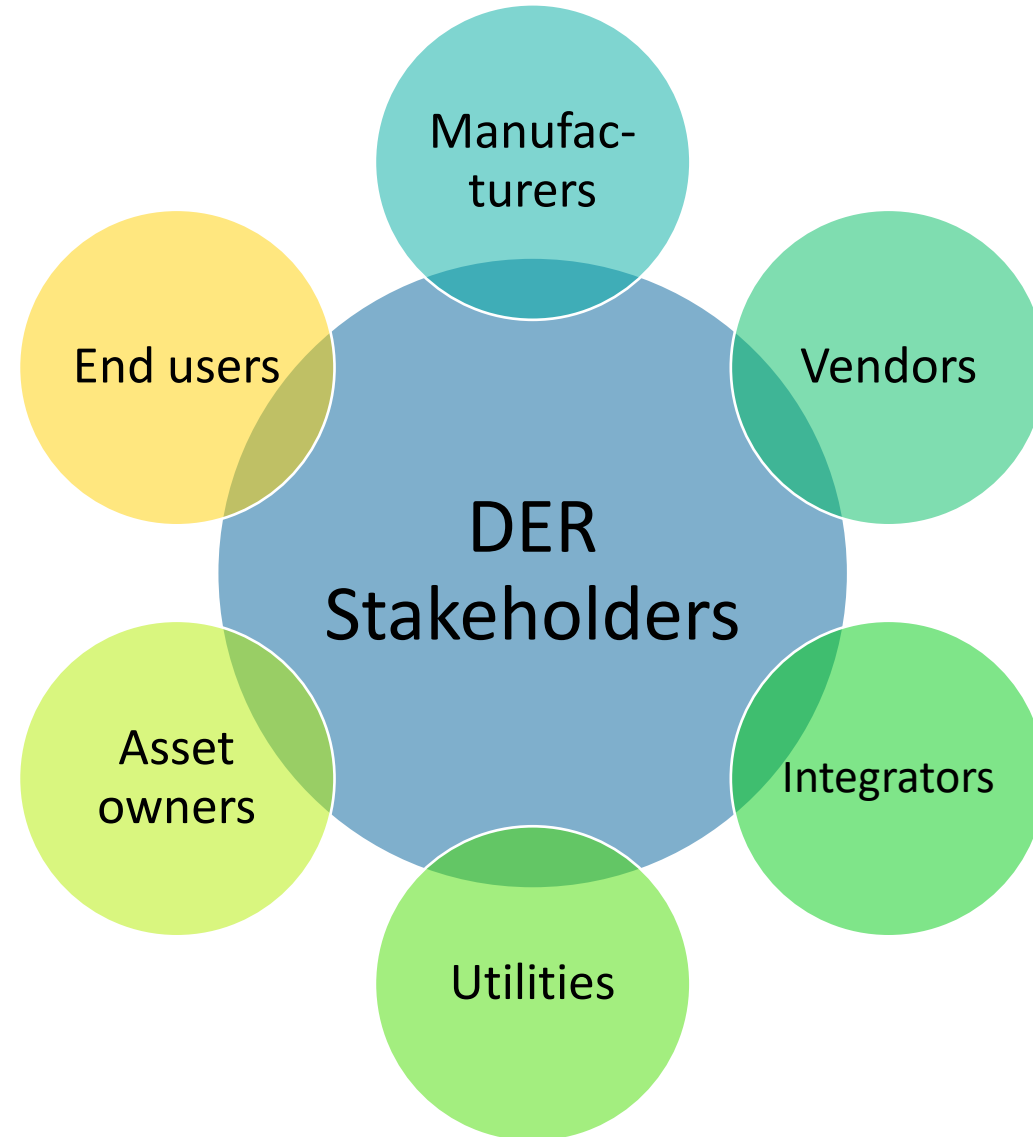
Engineered information control

Organizational culture

# Stakeholder Roles

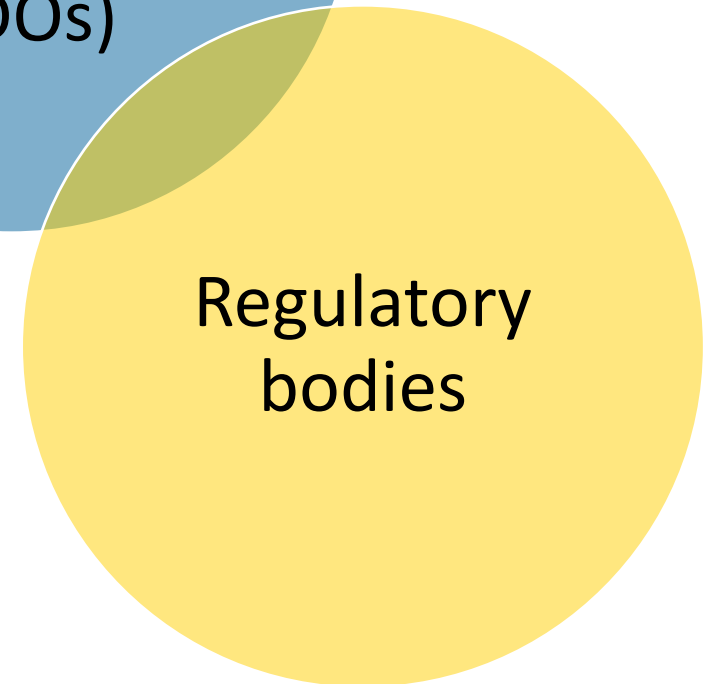
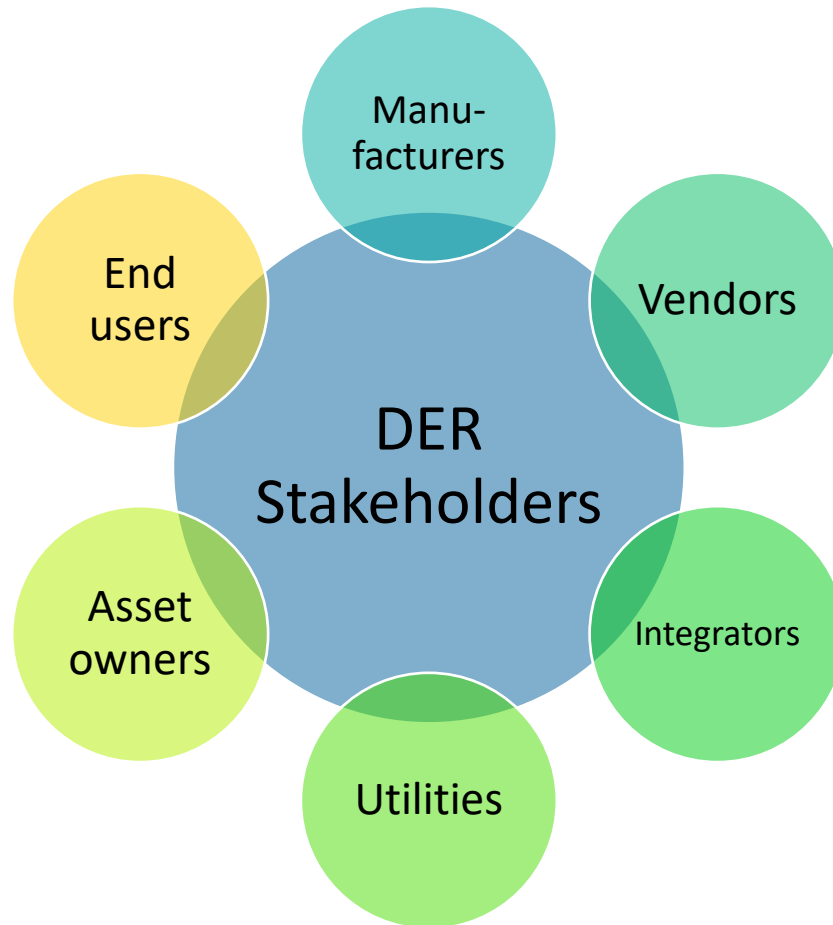
## Adoption of standards

- Roles and responsibilities vary across the DER ecosystem.
- Not all instances may have all stakeholders involved.
- Are responsibilities appropriately tied to assumed risk?



# Stakeholder roles

## Implementation of standards





# Thank you

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