



September 3, 2025

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway, 4th Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-3500

VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

**Re: New York Wastewater Cybersecurity Rules**

Dear Ms. Gwendolyn Wynkoop,

HackerOne Inc. (HackerOne) submits the following comments in response to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)'s proposed additions of Sections 616, 650, and 750 of Title 6 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (6 NYCRR), referred to as the "Wastewater Cybersecurity Rules."<sup>1</sup> HackerOne appreciates the opportunity to provide input and commends the DEC for advancing cybersecurity protections for wastewater treatment facilities.

By way of background, HackerOne is a global leader in offensive security solutions. Our HackerOne Platform combines AI with the ingenuity of the largest community of security researchers to find and fix security, privacy, and AI vulnerabilities across the software development lifecycle. The platform offers bug bounty, vulnerability disclosure, pentesting, AI red teaming, and code security. We are trusted by industry leaders like Amazon, Anthropic, Crypto.com, General Motors, GitHub, Goldman Sachs, Uber, and the U.S. Department of Defense.

While HackerOne broadly supports the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's efforts to improve cybersecurity in the water sector, we believe that the following key changes would enhance its overall effectiveness.

**2. Lengthen Incident Reporting Timelines**

Under the proposed rule, 6 NYCRR 750-2.7(h)(1) requires permittees to "report cybersecurity incidents orally to the regional water engineer within 24 hours of becoming aware of the incident." While rapid notification is important, this short timeframe may hinder effective incident response and increase the risk of incomplete or inaccurate reporting. In the first 24 hours after a cybersecurity event, water system incident response teams may lack critical

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<sup>1</sup> New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Wastewater Cybersecurity Requirements, Sept. 3, 2025, <https://dec.ny.gov/regulatory/regulations/proposed-emergency-recently-adopted-regulations/water-revisions/proposed-amendments-to-6-nycrr-parts-616-650-750>.

information needed to fully assess the scope, impact, and mitigation measures. Reporting too early could result in submissions that require revision, potentially confusing regulators and compromising decision-making.

HackerOne recommends extending the reporting window to 72 hours. This timeline provides an appropriate balance between urgency and accuracy, allowing water systems to perform an initial assessment, determine the impact, and provide a meaningful and actionable report to regulators. A 72-hour timeframe aligns with established cybersecurity reporting standards, including the New York State Division of Financial Services Cybersecurity Requirements for Financial Services Companies<sup>2</sup>, Cyber Incident Reporting for Critical Infrastructure Act (CIRCA)<sup>3</sup> and the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)<sup>4</sup>, all of which adopt 72-hour reporting periods.

Additionally, HackerOne recommends that the incident reporting requirement become effective at least one year after the rule enters into force. This would give water systems sufficient time to implement internal processes and allocate necessary resources.

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HackerOne appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on this proposed rule. We look forward to continued engagement with policymakers on these issues and are happy to discuss our response at any time.

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<sup>2</sup> New York State Division of Financial Services Cybersecurity Requirements for Financial Services Companies, [https://www.dfs.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/12/rf23\\_nycrr\\_part\\_500\\_amend02\\_20231101.pdf](https://www.dfs.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/12/rf23_nycrr_part_500_amend02_20231101.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> 6 U.S. Code § 681b,

<https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid:USC-prelim-title6-section681&num=0&edition=prelim>

<sup>4</sup> European Union (EU), General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016, Article 33.