

s47F

From: [REDACTED] s47F
Sent: Monday, 9 January 2023 2:58 PM
To: Matthew Haigh
Cc: [REDACTED] s47F; EIAT
Subject: FOR ACTION: IDC Agenda_8/12 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Attachments: KG TPs - NIAA - Phishing attempt against the AEC.docx

Hi Matt

As requested by Dr Gleeson / Mr Lynch late last year (see below thread), please see attached talking points on the spear phishing attempt against the AEC in November 2022, reported to the EIAT and queried by the NIAA.

For quick reference, the NIAA has asked for:

- *Clarity re the purpose of the attack, trends, and what the overall risks are. Also would be good to understand what the EIAT is and whether a referendum specific one is needed.*

s47E

We have also provided context regarding the EIAT and its potential role for the proposed referendum, including that the Board intends to brief the NIAA / Referendum IDC.

For your review and clearance to Michael please.

Kind regards

s47F

s47F | **Assistant Director**

Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission

s47F



AEC

Australian Electoral Commission

Make sure you're **enrolled to vote.**
Visit www.aec.gov.au

From: [REDACTED] s47F
Sent: Monday, 9 January 2023 2:32 PM
To: [REDACTED] s47F
Subject: RE: IDC Agenda_8/12 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Thanks s47F

Agree, let's put it up with a caveated date ([REDACTED] s47E)

Regards

s47F | Acting Director

Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission

s47F



Make sure you're enrolled to vote.
Visit www.aec.gov.au

From: s47F
Sent: Monday, 9 January 2023 2:01 PM
To: s47F
Subject: RE: IDC Agenda_8/12 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Thanks, s47F – updated and attached.

s47E advice that they don't expect anything fulsome, wondering if we should now progress through Matt and Michael to ensure Kath receives this in "early January" as requested?

Kind regards

s47F

s47F | Assistant Director

Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission

s47F



Make sure you're enrolled to vote.
Visit www.aec.gov.au

From: s47F
Sent: Friday, 6 January 2023 11:39 AM
To: s47F
Subject: RE: IDC Agenda_8/12 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Thanks s47F sounds sensible.

Just so I don't forget, there's a typo in there "form" instead of "from" s47E
) . Let's correct that next week.

Regards

s47F | Acting Director

Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission

s47F



Make sure you're enrolled to vote.
Visit www.aec.gov.au

From: [REDACTED] s47F
Sent: Thursday, 5 January 2023 12:51 PM
To: [REDACTED] s47F
Subject: FW: IDC Agenda_8/12 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Hi [REDACTED] s47F

I don't foresee necessity for these to be provided to Dr Gleeson this week, but for your visibility at this stage, please see draft talking points re the recent phishing attempt attached.

[REDACTED] s47E think waiting until the end of the week should be considerate enough before progressing without.

Happy to discuss.

Kind regards

[REDACTED] s47F

[REDACTED] s47F | **Assistant Director**
Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission

[REDACTED] s47F



Make sure you're **enrolled to vote**.
Visit www.aec.gov.au

From: Michael Lynch [REDACTED] s47F
Sent: Wednesday, 21 December 2022 4:00 PM
To: AEC - [REDACTED] s47F
Cc: (OFFICIAL) Matthew Haigh [REDACTED] s47F (OFFICIAL-AEC) [REDACTED] s47F
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: IDC Agenda_8/12 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Thanks [REDACTED] s47F – note I changed [REDACTED] s47F email to be AEC.

Regards

Michael Lynch | First Assistant Commissioner
Electoral Integrity and Operations Group
Australian Electoral Commission

[REDACTED] s47F



Make sure you're **enrolled to vote**.
Visit www.aec.gov.au

From: AEC - [REDACTED] s47F
Sent: Wednesday, 21 December 2022 2:46 PM
To: Michael Lynch [REDACTED] s47F

Cc: Matthew Haigh [REDACTED] (OFFICIAL) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: IDC Agenda_8/12 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

Thanks, Michael.

We are consulting the Cyber Security team to assist in updating our existing talking points on this subject. Once complete, we'll seek Matt's review/clearance ahead of providing to you and Kath.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: AEC - LYNCH,Michael [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 21 December 2022 7:07 AM
To: AEC - IGGLESDEN,Julie [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: AEC - HAIGH,Matthew [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: IDC Agenda_8/12 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

Hi Julie & [REDACTED] – just looping you in. You'll see further info below regarding EIAT and the phishing attempt and Kath's request for some talking points please.

Regards

Michael Lynch

[REDACTED]

From: AEC - GLEESON,Kath [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 20 December 2022 9:43 PM
To: AEC - HAIGH,Matthew [REDACTED]; AEC - LYNCH,Michael [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: IDC Agenda_8/12 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

Hey – see trail below. In the new year, could you pls provide me with some TPs so I can speak to this in the IDC?

Kath Gleeson
First Assistant Commissioner & National Election Manager
Service Delivery Group
Australian Electoral Commission

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 20 December 2022 1:47 PM
To: AEC - GLEESON,Kath [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: IDC Agenda_8/12 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Kath,

Sorry for the confusion.

The meeting on the 13th will be outside of IDC, with [REDACTED] s47F are attending from NIAA.

Regards,

[REDACTED] s47F

From: AEC - GLEESON, Kath [REDACTED] s47F

Sent: Friday, 9 December 2022 2:58 PM

To: [REDACTED] s47F

Cc: AEC - SCANDRETT, Natasha [REDACTED] s47F >; AEC - SO, Sally

[REDACTED] s47F

[REDACTED] s47F

Subject: RE: IDC Agenda_8/12 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

OK, thanks [REDACTED] s47F I assume we will cover this at the meeting on Friday, 13 January 2023 1:30 PM-2:30 PM that has come through today?

Cheers – Kath.

Kath Gleeson
First Assistant Commissioner & National Election Manager
Service Delivery Group
Australian Electoral Commission

[REDACTED] s47F

From: [REDACTED] s47F

Sent: Friday, 9 December 2022 12:06 PM

To: AEC - GLEESON, Kath [REDACTED] s47F

Cc: AEC - SCANDRETT, Natasha [REDACTED] s47F; AEC - SO, Sally

[REDACTED] s47F

[REDACTED] s47F

Subject: RE: IDC Agenda_8/12 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Kath!

Apologies about the mix up and I didn't mean to put AEC on the spot.

We received the below notification from the Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce (EIAT) about a phishing attempt on the AEC.

I think it would be good to get clarity re the purpose of the attack, trends, and what the overall risks are. Also would be good to understand what the EIAT is and whether a referendum specific one is needed.

At the last IDC it was decided to have a 1 hour session in January to cover it all off. Is that okay?

Regards,

[REDACTED] s47F

From: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 1 December 2022 3:28 PM

To: [REDACTED] s47F

s47F

Subject: For awareness: AEC spear phishing campaign [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not follow guidance, click links, or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon EIAT members

For your information and awareness, we would like to bring to your attention a recent 'spear phishing' email campaign at the AEC. The detail of these emails is below.

AEC systems were **not** compromised in any way. We believe this is worthwhile sharing with the EIAT on the basis that despite being contained by the AEC, the campaign appears targeted and somewhat sophisticated. It is possible it relates to the proposed referendum given the targeting of AEC's Indigenous Electoral Participation Program mailboxes.

s47E

It is a reminder that the cyber threat environment for the proposed referendum is unlikely to be lower than for a federal election.

Email details

On 14 November 2022, at 22:52, a series of emails were sent to the AEC's eight IEPP mailboxes, from the falsified email address support[@]aec.gov.au, with the subject '[email address] have 12 Pending incoming emails'. The list of recipients is as follows:

- indigenous@aec.gov.au
- indigenous-sa@aec.gov.au
- indigenous-wa@aec.gov.au
- indigenous-vic@aec.gov.au
- indigenous-tas@aec.gov.au
- indigenous-qld@aec.gov.au
- indigenous-nt@aec.gov.au
- indigenous-nsw@aec.gov.au

s47E

s47E

Thanks,

s47F | Project Officer

Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission

s47F



Make sure you're **enrolled to vote**.
Visit www.aec.gov.au

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

If you have received this transmission in error please notify us immediately by return e-mail and delete all copies. If this e-mail or any attachments have been sent to you in error, that error does not constitute waiver of any confidentiality, privilege or copyright in respect of information in the e-mail or attachments.

From: AEC - GLEESON, Kath s47F

Sent: Thursday, 8 December 2022 2:02 PM

To: s47F

Cc: AEC - SCANDRETT, Natasha s47F AEC - SO, Sally

Subject: FW: IDC Agenda_8/12 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Hi [REDACTED] s47F – I see we were down on the agenda for an item on phishing (apologies I couldn't attend today – I had a clash); I'm not clear where this came from – can you advise?

Kath Gleeson
First Assistant Commissioner & National Election Manager
Service Delivery Group
Australian Electoral Commission

From: [REDACTED] s47F

To: [REDACTED] s47F

Cc: [REDACTED] s47F

Subject: IDC Agenda 8/12 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Good afternoon,

Please note that tomorrow's meeting is from 10:30 – 11:00.

Regards,

Constitutional Recognition Policy | Recognition and Empowerment Branch | Strategic Policy Group
National Indigenous Australians Agency



The National Indigenous Australians Agency acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the elders past, present and emerging.



IMPORTANT: This message, and any attachments to it, contains information that is confidential and may also be the subject of legal professional or other privilege. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, you must not review, copy, disseminate or disclose its contents to any other party or take action in reliance of any material contained within it. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately by return email informing them of the mistake and delete all copies of the message from your computer system.

Notice:

The information contained in this email message and any attached files may be confidential information, and may also be the subject of legal professional privilege. If you are not the intended recipient, any use, disclosure or copying of this email is unauthorised. If you received this email in error, please notify the sender by contacting the department's switchboard on 1300 566 046 during business hours (8am - 5pm Canberra time) and delete all copies of this transmission together with any attachments.

IMPORTANT: This message, and any attachments to it, contains information that is confidential and may also be the subject of legal professional or other privilege. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, you must not review, copy, disseminate or disclose its contents to any other party or take action in reliance of any material contained within it. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately by return email informing them of the mistake and delete all copies of the message from your computer system.

Notice:

The information contained in this email message and any attached files may be confidential information, and may also be the subject of legal professional privilege. If you are not the intended recipient, any use, disclosure or copying of this email is unauthorised. If you received this email in error, please notify the

sender by contacting the department's switchboard on 1300 566 046 during business hours (8am - 5pm Canberra time) and delete all copies of this transmission together with any attachments.

IMPORTANT: This message, and any attachments to it, contains information that is confidential and may also be the subject of legal professional or other privilege. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, you must not review, copy, disseminate or disclose its contents to any other party or take action in reliance of any material contained within it. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately by return email informing them of the mistake and delete all copies of the message from your computer system.

Notice:

The information contained in this email message and any attached files may be confidential information, and may also be the subject of legal professional privilege. If you are not the intended recipient, any use, disclosure or copying of this email is unauthorised. If you received this email in error, please notify the sender by contacting the department's switchboard on 1300 566 046 during business hours (8am - 5pm Canberra time) and delete all copies of this transmission together with any attachments.

Notice:

The information contained in this email message and any attached files may be confidential information, and may also be the subject of legal professional privilege. If you are not the intended recipient, any use, disclosure or copying of this email is unauthorised. If you received this email in error, please notify the sender by contacting the department's switchboard on 1300 566 046 during business hours (8am - 5pm Canberra time) and delete all copies of this transmission together with any attachments.
