



CYBER RISK

Specialist insurance cover for renewable energy projects against cyberattacks

Cyberattacks currently pose one of the greatest – and fastest-growing – threats to the global energy sector. Annual losses are estimated to be in the region of USD 64bn, with major utilities and energy firms across the globe facing persistent attacks targeting communications and control systems.

To date, these attacks have been focused on conventional generation infrastructure – but as the clean energy markets grow, renewable energy projects are becoming a prominent target.

Simultaneously, renewable energy projects are operating on increasingly integrated systems, with individual assets connected to, and accessible via, unified online networks.

While beneficial in terms of efficiency, this leaves projects more vulnerable to cyberattacks and ransomware – particularly given the renewable energy sector's relative lack of sophistication in cyber risk mitigation. Many projects continue to operate on open networks or intranet sites that are out of date or have not been recently 'virus-proofed'.

Renewable energy projects are vulnerable to two major cyber risks:

- Exposure to ransomware that threatens to publish sensitive data, or to block access to project management systems, unless a ransom is paid
- Corruption of SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) data so that it becomes worthless or causes operational problems

In a recent experiment, researchers from the University of Tulsa hacked into a wind farm control network, demonstrating the ease with which renewable energy infrastructure can be compromised by a malicious cyberattack.

Mitigating a growing cyber threat

In response to demand from clients, GCube is offering a new, first-in-market cyber risk product, specifically designed to protect renewable energy projects from the growing threat posed by cyberattacks on proprietary or third-party IT or OT (Operational Technology) systems.

Cyberattacks, while increasing in regularity, are currently a low-incidence risk – but when an incident does occur, losses are often very high, due to the potential for a single attack to compromise, or stall, an entire fleet.

In this situation, losses can include not only Business Interruption costs resulting from project 'downtime', but also reputational harm and the loss, or theft, of valuable SCADA data.

GCube's Cyber Risk product, available globally, offers clients the opportunity to protect their revenues from the significant – and rising – risk posed by malicious cyberattacks and ransomware.

The product

GCube's Cyber Risk product provides cover for loss of revenue, and incidental expenses, incurred by the Insured in the following circumstances:

- Non-damage events leading to Business Interruption
- Ransomware and cyber extortion
- Digital asset destruction – including loss of use or theft of SCADA data
- Reputational harm
- Cyberattack compromising critical third-party assets (e.g. transmission infrastructure)

GCube offers

- Capacity of up to USD 25,000,000 for any one project or risk – although exceptions may be possible in some circumstances
- Self-Insured Retention as low as USD 10,000, with a waiting period of 12 hours

For further information on how GCube's Cyber Risk product can be tailored to meet your specific exposures, please contact Geoff Taunton-Collins at geoff.tauntoncollins@gcube-insurance.com

About GCube

GCube is the leading provider of insurance services for renewable energy projects in wind, solar, biomass, wave, hydro and tidal around the globe.

Its specialized focus and robust underwriting authority offers unparalleled marine, property, liability and political risk insurance coverage for all renewable energy risks. With over 25 years' experience in the renewable energy sector, GCube understands the unique exposures of these power generation projects and assists its clients in identifying, quantifying and mitigating risk efficiently and economically while helping them achieve their business objectives.

To learn more about how we can support your insurance coverage requirements, please visit our website at www.gcube-insurance.com