October 21, 2011 NIST Smart Grid Privacy Subgroup Meeting Notes

Minutes by Rebecca Herold

Please send this distribution list any necessary corrections or additions.

Next full group teleconference meeting:

   Friday November 4, 2011 at 11:00am edt

Here are my summary notes from the meeting:

1. Past meeting notes
   - See http://collaborate.nist.gov/twiki-sggrid/bin/view/SmartGrid/CSCTGPrivacy

2. Facebook/OPOWER 'social energy' app: Lee Aber & Wayne Lin
   Discussion related to a recent article: “Facebook, OPOWER partner on 'social energy' app”
   - To date there has been anonymous use comparisons.
   - Much work is outbound marketing programs, opt-out programs. They work pretty well. Also made an investment in opt-in programs. 30% of time on internet is on Facebook.
   - We have similar investors with Facebook. They are thinking about how to help various social issues. Sustainability is one of the issues. Help FB user based of 800mil become more energy sustainable.
   - Features and functionality. Launch early 2012.
   - Built a similar homes comparison taking OPOWER’s aggregated data and compare.
   - Enter home profile and then it will say how many you match.
   - Lillie: What kind of data?
   - Wayne: # of people in house. Can provide a list to our group. Can look at the list, aggregate all homes that match, and then show how you compare with all others. That feature is not social but a benchmarking tool.
   - Don: A core concern is that the data is really in aggregate form. Only other data that can be seen is the data that has been provided in the aggregate form.
   - Wayne: Login using Facebook connect using the OPOWER app. Also have access to your FB profile information. Invite users to ask their friends to participate as well. They must choose the friends they share their data with.
   - Lee: Requires an explicit opt-in for all participating.
   - Wayne: Once friends are added in, then you provide energy usage data. 2 ways: 1) Either manually typing in, or 2) also working with utilities to provide users ability to import data from their utility account. This data comes from the utility systems. The utilities have consented to the process and are already providing OPOWER with data for other services. Utilities are typically shipping billing data and AMI data and is already residing within the OPOWER data bases. OPOWER is a contracted agent.
• Lillie: Doing as a pilot to see how it works? To review the data disclosed? Etc.? On FB they often provide a lot of information about their activities. How will you handle these situations? A break between energy usage and energy reporting.
• Wayne: Piloting – Yes, rolling out a beta launch in February with a subset of partners. Around 55 – 60 utilities have already vetted the questions being used. Sharing and propagating data – No automatic posting of data to FB. All FB posting is done by the user. They can look at the comparisons and then post and start conversations around energy usage.
• Don: Thinking behind that’s to be careful about what is disclosed, and provide choice so people have complete control over the information made available to their friends.
• Wayne: Where data is stored – All energy data use and billing information is located on OPOWER servers, FB does not have access to that. Data in POWER social does not send billing or energy usage data to FB directly, it must be done by the users.
• Don: Some utilities provide aggregate data, some provide AMI level data.
• ?: What if the consumer wants to opt-out of the utility providing the aggregate data?
• Lillie: Who puts energy data into the app, and then how data is repurposed.
• Wayne: FB does not have access to anything other than what the consumer chooses to post. App will run within a separate domain that is not part of FB.
• Lee: Regarding opt-out for aggregate info provided through the utilities. This should currently be the case. Many discussions about being able to opt-out, and that is something that should already be in place.
• Wayne: Friend comparison – once linked to friends will generate leader board. Also creating teams and you can join and have a group goal of energy savings. Also tips to save energy.
• Rebecca: One risk is having another friend post the information about you. Can any of us participate in the pilot?
• Wayne: Anyone can participate even if not a utility customer.
• Rebecca: So not taking data directly from the smart meter?
• Wayne: No; the data from the smart meter or the HAN.
• Rebecca: How long will data be retained?
• Wayne: According to the terms established with the utility. Comparisons typically done on previous month. May look in the future to look at the same time the previous year.
• Rebecca: Can you provide more information about the data involved, and the pilot?
• Lee: Yes, I will send some follow-up information

3. Team Updates

a. Third Party Team: Brent Struthers (team lead)

• Brent: We are continuing to fill out that matrix, with the hope that we will end up with a reasonable roadmap for a final third party data access best practices by mid-December.
• We are meeting twice per week, on Mondays and Thursdays. We continue to move forward no matter who is on the call. I know we have plenty of people who cannot make two calls per week, myself and Tanya included much of the time. But at this point we have not much choice.
• Rebecca: Around ½ of all breaches are a result of mishandling by third parties / business associates. Avoiding addressing the issue will not make such breaches go
away; it will only result in more. Regardless, I believe what the team is doing is important, as do others I’ve talked to about it.

b. Training and Awareness Team: Rebecca Herold (team lead):
   • Reviewed the utilities privacy training slides
   • The team meets on Mondays at noon eastern time.

c. Privacy Use Cases Team: Christine Hertzog (team lead)
   • Christine was not on the call, so Rebecca gave update.
   • Continue to make progress with our 3-person sub-team.
   • Still plan to get draft done by end of year for distribution to full group.

d. PEV Team: Mike Coop (team lead)
   • Mike was not on the call, and there was no feedback provided by any team members in attendance.

e. NSTIC Team: Krystina Schaefer/Amanda Stallings (team lead)
   • Still on hold

4. Miscellaneous

a. Meetings are every other Friday
b. Next full group meeting will be Friday, November 4

b. If you know of any speakers who would be interesting and useful to provide a discussion for our group, let me know.

d. Other issues or news related to smart grid privacy?
   • Brent: Thought I’d give y’all a heads-up that the Colorado PUC is going to release, before 11/4, their rules on smart grid data access.
     o Someone, more familiar with the draft rules than I, believes they are more friendly to third parties trying to gain access to data than the California rules.
     o Docket/proceeding number is 10R-799E.
     o Go here and query on the proceeding number: https://www.dora.state.co.us/pls/efi/EFI_Search_UI.Search