



## Homeland Security

# Protected Critical Infrastructure Information Program

The Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII) program protects infrastructure information voluntarily shared with DHS to be used for homeland security purposes. The PCII program was created by Congress in the Critical Infrastructure Information Act of 2002, ensuring that PCII in the government's hands is protected from disclosure

## Protections

PCII cannot:

- Be disclosed through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request or through a request under a similar State, local, tribal, or territorial disclosure law;
- Be disclosed in civil litigation; or
- Be used for regulatory purposes.

PCII may only be used by a Federal, State, local, tribal, or territorial government employee or contractor who:

- Has taken PCII training;
- Has homeland security duties; and
- Has a valid need to know that particular information.

PCII is specially marked and must be safeguarded, both physically and electronically, under specific procedures to avoid any improper disclosures. All of these protections ensure that submitted information is protected and is used only by authorized homeland security professionals and used only for homeland security purposes.

## Uses

PCII is used by DHS and other government homeland security professionals to identify vulnerabilities, mitigation strategies, and protective measures. DHS works closely with critical infrastructure asset owners and operators to provide a wide array of services and products to help them protect the Nation's critical infrastructure, and PCII is a key component in these efforts. PCII also allows DHS to collect and protect sensitive security critical infrastructure information, cyber-attack, risk, and vulnerability information to protect the Nation's infrastructure. PCII protections allow access to a vast amount of critical information necessary to detect, deter, and defend against threats to the Nation.

## Contact Information

Learn how the IP Gateway can support your organization's homeland security efforts by contacting the IP Gateway Help Desk at [IPGateway@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:IPGateway@hq.dhs.gov) or 1-866-844-8163.



Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security