



Fiber Optic Sensing Association
Public Policy Position Paper – Border Security and Critical Infrastructure Security

I. Border Security

- Linear Ground Detection System (LGDS). The Department of Homeland Security U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a Commercial Solutions Opening Pilot Program General Solicitation for a Linear Ground Detection System on July 18, 2019 (CSOP-BP-GS-000002). FOSA supports CBP's interest in obtaining existing commercially available, fully developed Linear Ground Detection System (LGDS) technologies that are able to detect and identify all cross border intrusions and threats without being affected by blind spots created by man-made and natural obstacles as they are traversing the international border between the designated ports of entry. FOSA encourages CBP to expeditiously test, evaluate, and deploy these types of systems as part of a tailored, layered approach to improve situational awareness along the U.S. Border.
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Linear Fiber Optic Sensing System. FOSA members stand ready to provide the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with an interoperable commercial security solution with linear sensing technologies, systems integration, training, operations, and life-cycle support for deployment along the southwest border. FOSA strongly believes that procurement of a readily available COTS solution will yield the greatest near- and long- term benefits for the federal government.
- Technology Funding for Border Security. The FY2020 House Homeland Security Appropriations provided \$55,000,000 for innovation technologies, which included remote sensing technology, as well \$50,000,000 for border security technology procurement. The FY2020 Senate Homeland Security Appropriations bill provided \$98,782,000 for continued funding for border security technology to increase situational awareness along the northern and southern borders as well as report language stating that "the Committee believes it is imperative to integrate appropriate sensor technology, including fiber optics and camera systems, with the barrier system." FOSA supports the House and Senate Appropriations Committees' funding and support for the deployment of fiber optic sensing technology as part of the solution to achieve operational control of the northern and southern borders.

II. Critical Infrastructure Security

- Using Distributed Fiber Optic Sensing for Critical Infrastructure Security. Distributed Fiber Optic Sensing (DFOS) technology can be deployed for advanced wide area and perimeter security to protect nuclear reactors, chemical facilities, energy sector, and defense bases. FOSA supports federal policies and funding priorities that encourage the use of advanced technologies to protect these critical facilities.