Business & Technology Advisory

March 2019



Station Battery Update: National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 855 for the Installation of Energy Storage Systems

Key Highlights

- A coalition of electric utility members and affiliates is being organized to participate in the development of NFPA's proposed Standard 855.
- NRECA members are encouraged to review the proposed standard, provide feedback, and participate in the upcoming June meeting.

What has changed?

Co-ops, municipals and IOUs have expressed significant concerns regarding the expected high costs and undue burden of falling under the scope of the National Fire Protection Association's newly proposed Standard for the Installation of Energy Storage Systems (NFPA 855). In response, EEI organized a coalition of electric utility members and affiliates to represent our industry's interests during the development of NFPA 855. This task force has outlined a tiered strategy through which our industry can support an appeal in the form of a Notice of Intent to Make a Motion (NITMAM) to alter the direction of the new standard before it is officially adopted.

It is important to note that a set course of action has not been decided upon yet.

What do cooperatives need to know or do about it?

We are seeking member feedback on the currently proposed strategy and are asking that you review the attached two-page issue summary.

Attachment

EEI_Issue_Summary_NFPA_855_March_2019.pdf

In addition, we are seeking support from co-op personnel and others at the NFPA Technical Meeting taking place on Thursday, June 20 in San Antonio, Texas.

Note that individuals must be a member of NFPA for at least 180 days prior to the meeting to be eligible to vote, so we are requesting support from existing NFPA members only.

Please work with your colleagues to identify individuals who can be expected to attend the NFPA Technical Meeting to support our appeal, and then send a contact list to Robert Harris from NRECA, Michael Buckley from EEI, or Jim Houston from Southern Company at the contact information below.

Additional Resources:

Advisory: Explanation of NFPA 855 and Potential Impacts on Cooperatives (August 2018)

Contacts for Questions and to Send Your Contact List for Participation:

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