

## Business & Technology Strategies

# TechUpdate

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### Co-op Broadband Initiatives

There is a demand in unserved and underserved locations for broadband services, which are essential to community development, economic growth and prosperity, and educational attainment. Co-ops are taking a lead in meeting this need with projects to install broadband to benefit their member-consumers. A new NRECA case study series highlights these initiatives, beginning with the efforts by Anza Electric Cooperatives and Roanoke Electric Cooperative. Visit our website often for new case studies in this series.

- [Anza Case Study](#)
- [Roanoke Case Study](#)
- [Case Study Series](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Paul Breakman](#)

### How Tax Code Updates and Solar Tariffs Affect Co-ops

Recent tax code changes and solar tariffs are affecting the renewable generation market. This new advisory explains how the extension of the Investment Tax Credit (ITC), the elimination of New Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (nCREBS), the expansion of bonus depreciation, and the imposition of solar tariffs will impact the costs of cooperative solar development.

- [Advisory](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Jan Ahlen](#)

### Avian Protection Using GIS Data

Equipment damage, momentary short-circuits, outages, and other bird-related reliability issues are a concern for many utilities. Two cooperatives are bringing new meaning to the line that 'information is power,' by using robust analytics and visual data applications to proactively protect birds from negatively interacting with electrical facilities. This new advisory highlights the efforts of SECO Energy and Coles-Moultrie to implement avian protection programs and the benefits they achieved.

- [Advisory](#)
- Contacts for Questions: [Robbin Christianson](#) and [Janelle Lemen](#)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- [EnergySec CyberSecurity Education Week](#) – April 23-27, Phoenix, AZ (NRECA members discount rate of \$2,500 instead of \$3,495 with **CODE 30RC3**)
- [Safety Leadership Summit](#) – April 25-27, Atlanta, GA
- [AREGC Conference](#) – June 24-27, Lanier Islands, GA
- [CONNECT '18](#) – May 8-10, Salt Lake City, UT
- [Electrification 2018](#) – August 20-23, Long Beach, CA

### BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY STRATEGIES PORTFOLIO



PROVIDING SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONABLE ADVICE



RURAL COOPERATIVE CYBER SECURITY CAPABILITIES PROGRAM

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## Partnering with the Military

The Department of Defense (DoD) is one of the largest energy consumers worldwide and the single largest energy consumer in the United States, which presents opportunity for cooperatives to work with the military on energy initiatives. Over 70 Senior-Level Cooperative staff attended NRECA's *Partnering with the Military: Opportunities, Challenges, and Risks* event this past February and heard from fellow cooperatives and the U.S. Departments of Energy and Defense about how to engage and work with local federal facilities and military installations. Presentations from this event, as well as other resources, are now available to cooperatives online.

- [Website](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Lauren Khair](#)

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## Seeking MultiSpeak Co-op Case Studies

Distribution optimization is a key role of America's Electric Cooperatives that relies on seamless, cyber secure, cost-effective, and reliable data interoperability. NRECA's MultiSpeak® case study series provides insights into how co-ops are using this world leading software interoperability standard to achieve effective system integration and real savings. As detailed in this new advisory, NRECA is looking for additional co-op MultiSpeak case studies, and we welcome interested cooperatives to contact Aleeta Harrington at [Aleeta.Harrington@nreca.coop](mailto:Aleeta.Harrington@nreca.coop).

- [Advisory: Seeking MultiSpeak Case Studies](#)
- [MultiSpeak Case Study Series](#)
- Contacts for Questions: [Alvin Razon](#) and [Aleeta Harrington](#)

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## TechAdvantage 2019 Call for Presentations - Deadline Extended to April 19

NRECA is seeking proposals for presentations at the 2019 TechAdvantage® Conference and Expo, March 10-13, 2019 at the Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, Florida. This is an opportunity for you to share your solutions and insights with CEO's, engineering, operations, energy services, supply management, and IT professionals who serve more than 900 rural electric cooperatives. Submission deadline has been extended to April 19, 2018.

- [Submission Instructions and Details](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Mary Ackleson](#)

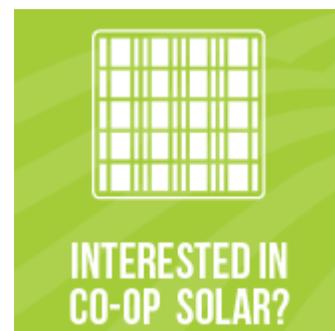
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## DER Compensation and Cost Recovery Guide

Recent market growth of Distributed Energy Resources (DER) presents opportunities and challenges for cooperatives, as consumers and utilities are presented



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with alternative power generation options. NRECA has released a “Distributed Energy Resources Compensation and Cost Recovery Guide” to serve as a compendium describing the objectives by which electric cooperatives might pursue DER programs in partnership with their members. The guide discusses ways in which utilities compensate participating DER consumer-members and recover the costs of DER programs; and elements that cooperatives may wish to consider in developing a stakeholder engagement process for DER.

- [Advisory: Overview](#)
- [Guide](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Allison Hamilton](#) or [Mary Ann Ralls](#)

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## Integrating Renewable Energy to the Grid

Installed capacity of renewable energy resources has been rising over the past 10 years, and the intermittency and non-dispatchable nature of these resources pose challenges for grid operators and utilities. This third article in our series on integrating renewable energy to the grid examines various options for mitigating the variability impacts of wind and solar generation, including energy storage and demand-side management.

- [Article](#)
- [Article Series](#)
- Contacts for Questions: [Dan Walsh](#) and [Dale Bradshaw](#)

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## Mitigating the Challenges of Wind Generation O&M

Despite very high availability overall, wind turbines have some major components that may fail before the typical 20-year rated lifetime of the entire turbine. While industry stakeholders are working to develop solutions, O&M best practices combined with sensor data from throughout the wind turbine can identify many preventative maintenance needs before components fail catastrophically.

- [Article](#)
- [Wind Generation Article Series](#)
- Contacts for Questions: [Dan Walsh](#) and [Dale Bradshaw](#)

[www.cooperative.com](http://www.cooperative.com)

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