

Business &
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Strategies

TechUpdate

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Cybersecurity Course Voucher Program Deadline March 31

Through NRECA's Rural Cooperative Cybersecurity Capabilities Program (RC3), cooperatives have an opportunity to take up to three [SANS](#) online cybersecurity courses **for FREE**. This opportunity is limited and interested cooperatives must submit an application for consideration **by March 31**. See the accompanying advisory and FAQ for details.

NOTE: *If you submitted your application prior to Monday, March 12, please contact Andre Joseph. There was a technical issue with the application form and applicants' information was not captured correctly. This issue has been resolved.*

- [Advisory and FAQ](#)
- [Participation Application](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Andre Joseph](#)

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 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](#)

Carbon XPRIZE Finalists to be Announced

The five finalists for the \$20 million global prize for carbon technology solutions have been selected and will be announced April 9th during the Bloomberg New England Energy Summit in New York City. This XPRIZE

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
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PROVIDING SOLUTIONS
AND ACTIONABLE ADVICE



RURAL COOPERATIVE
CYBER SECURITY
CAPABILITIES PROGRAM

competition is for the development and implementation of breakthrough technologies that will convert CO₂ emissions from power plants and industrial facilities into valuable products. Finalists will have access to the Wyoming Integrated Test Center in June.

- [Advisory](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Dan Walsh](#)

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](#)

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.

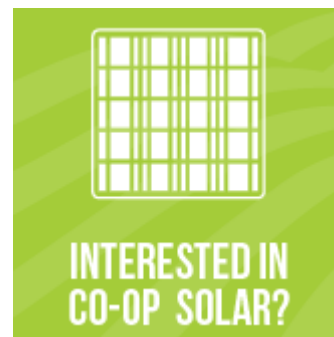
- [Article](#)
- [Wind Generation Article Series](#)
- Contacts for Questions: [Dan Walsh](#) and [Dale Bradshaw](#)

Leveraging Data to Advance Pole Attachment Policies

Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative (NOVEC), one of the nation's largest distribution cooperatives, has experienced major challenges in dealing with telecommunications firms' attachments on their distribution poles. These include technical problems due to improper attachments, as well as frequent attempts by these firms to reduce NOVEC's ability to recover its costs through attachment rates. This new advisory explains how the cooperative met these challenges in the field, in the legislature, and with regulators by leveraging solid asset data to stand up to some of the largest companies in the state of Virginia.

- [Advisory](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Michael Leitman](#)

Natural Gas Pipeline Infrastructure and Challenges



As the demand for natural gas continues to increase in both the electric and transportation sectors, it is important to understand the risks and opportunities of this energy source. Natural gas has now displaced coal as the largest fuel source within the nation's electric generation mix. Infrastructure is a key concern, as deviations in pipeline capacity availability can severely affect the price and deliverability of natural gas in various regions.

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

TechAdvantage® 2019 Call for Presentations

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 is April 12, 2018.

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

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This is a promotion from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
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