

## Business and Technology Resources to Use Virtually During This Time of Physical Distancing

NRECA's Business and Technology Strategies group has a wealth of resources for cooperatives to access online and use virtually with staff during this time of physical distancing, including reports, guides, articles, advisories, webinars, podcasts and toolkits. We are here to help you stay engaged and advance your business and technology expertise. Find out more in this advisory:

- [Advisory](#)
- [Business and Technology Strategies Website](#)

## Webinar April 22: Impacts of Postponing or Canceling Annual Meetings and Director Elections due to COVID-19

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, many electric cooperatives have cancelled, postponed or modified their annual member meetings and director elections, and modified board meetings. Join us on **April 22 at 1:30 p.m. ET** for a free webinar regarding legal and practical issues associated with these actions.

- [Webinar Registration](#)
- [Contact: Kim Christiansen](#)

## New Cybersecurity Resources Available for Virtual Use

NRECA's Rural Cooperative Cybersecurity Capabilities (RC3) Program offers a variety of resources to assist cooperatives in improving their cybersecurity posture. The following are two new resources which can be used through coordinated web conferencing with staff and do not require people to assemble in the same location:

### RC3 Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise Scenarios

NRECA's RC3 Cybersecurity Tabletop (TTX) Toolkit, developed with Delta Risk, LLC, provides relevant cybersecurity incident scenarios with real world implications to help your cooperative improve your cybersecurity posture. Three new scenarios have just been released.

### Webinar Opportunities

- **Webinar: Impacts of Postponing or Canceling Annual Meetings and Director Elections due to COVID-19**  
April 22
- **Webinar: Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM)**  
April 30
- **Webinar Series: Mitigating Bird Issues**  
On Demand



- [RC3 Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise Toolkit](#)
- Contacts: [Adaora Ifebigh](#) and [Cynthia Hsu](#)

#### RC3 Online Cybersecurity Self-Assessment

NRECA worked with Axio Global, Inc. to develop an online version of the RC3 Cybersecurity Self-Assessment, providing enhanced features not feasible in the hardcopy version. Co-ops can now apply as a group to receive a free, multi-year group license to access this new online version. Deadline for application: Friday, May 15.

- [Advisory with More Details and Link to Application](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- Contact: [Cynthia Hsu](#)

### Webinar April 30: Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM)

Join us on **April 30 at 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET** for a webinar on Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM): Tactics, Benefits and Communication. You will hear about who uses IVM and common practices; cost savings, safety, risk management and conservation; and how to communicate the benefits of IVM to the public for understanding and support. **The webinar is free for NRECA members.**

- [Webinar Registration](#)
- Contacts: [Patti Metro](#) and [Stephanie Crawford](#)

### Integrated Distribution Resource Planning for Electric Cooperatives

The bulk power and distribution electric grids continue to evolve rapidly due the technological improvements, incentives and integrating more distributed energy resources (DER). As the paradigm shifts to an *integrated grid*, there are significant benefits to integrated distribution resource planning (IDRP). This new advisory explains the IDR concept and suggests one approach to creating an effective IDR.

- [Advisory](#)
- Contact: [Fathalla Eldali](#)

### Takeaways from the National Governors Association Roundtable on Rural Energy Affordability

On March 10, the National Governors Association (NGA) Energy, Infrastructure & Environment Division (EIE) convened rural energy experts and state policymakers from around the United States to identify policy and regulatory best practices to help inform solutions for governors seeking to improve rural energy affordability. This advisory recaps the discussion and highlights on serving low- and moderate-income consumer members, including current efforts by cooperatives; federal funding and financing programs; and unique challenges in outreach and engagement.



- [Advisory](#)
- Contact: [Adaora Ifebigh](#)

## Data Privacy Strategies in a Changing Landscape

Media reports, data privacy advocates and changing business landscapes, combined with increases in the amount of data that companies use to target services, are changing consumer expectations around data privacy. This new advisory discusses data privacy tools and technologies to help cooperatives establish strong privacy protections and maintain their position as trusted energy advisors and community business leaders.

- [Advisory](#)
- Contact: [Allison Hamilton](#)

## Take Interoperability to the Next Level with MultiSpeak® Marketplace

MultiSpeak Marketplace is a new e-commerce site where you can find the majority of commonly downloaded MultiSpeak documents, as well as newly developed guide specifications. MultiSpeak Guide Specifications are designed to be used in your request for quote and purchase order documentation and make it easy to correctly specify the interfaces you need. Visit our one-stop shop to download the specific MultiSpeak documents you need for your project.

- [MultiSpeak Marketplace](#)
- [MultiSpeak Guide Specifications](#)
- Contact: [Tony Thomas](#)

## Tools to Help Members Manage Energy Expenses

Electric co-ops pioneered the use of prepaid metering, proactive bill notifications and energy assistance programs to help consumer-members budget their energy expenses. Programs like these can help consumer-members manage their electricity bills during these extraordinary times. Find out more in this new advisory.

- [Advisory](#)
- Contact: [Brian Sloboda](#)

## 2020 National Compensation System – Data Now Available

The National Compensation System (NCS) is a key budgeting tool that provides comprehensive benchmark salary information compiled from NRECA member distribution cooperatives across the country. Accessible anywhere via your secure Cooperative.com login, the system allows users to customize their data search and export individual reports into a variety of formats. Combine this with NRECA's cost effective

compensation services and you can be confident your co-op has a solid compensation model that meets the needs of today's workforce.

- **More information**
- 2020 NCS Contact: [Ginny Beauchemin](#)
- 2020 Compensation Services Contact: [Delaine Orendorff](#)

## Electric Vehicle Service Equipment Load Control Case Studies

As the pace of adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) continues to increase across the country, so too does the electricity needed to charge them. The time of day that EV charging occurs can make a difference for co-ops from a cost perspective. This new report presents how co-ops can develop programs that ensure the adoption of EVs is beneficial for both members and the co-op.

- **Report**
- Contact: [Brian Sloboda](#)

## Best Practice Guidelines for Steam Turbines

Generation and transmission cooperatives with significant renewable generation in their service areas may need to perform cyclic operations with steam turbines never designed for such thermal and pressure stresses. Resulting core problems, if left unchecked, can lead to outages. This new Surveillance article series reviews the complexity of power plant operation in cycling modes and provides maintenance strategies, based on the CEATI Thermal Generation Interest Group's report: Best Practice Guidelines for the Operation of Steam Turbines and Auxiliary Plants.

- **Article 1: Steam Turbines: Operating Challenges in Plant Cycling Modes**
- **Article 2: Steam Turbine Maintenance: Knowing What Components to Service and When**
- Contact: [Dan Walsh](#)

## Viable Fuel Alternatives to Diesel Trucks

Battery electric vehicles for commercial applications are here today and are a growing alternative to traditional gasoline, diesel, alternative fuel, and hybrid powertrains. By co-op staff engaging early with fleet owners, they can better understand their choices and the advantages that electric trucks might provide. This new advisory shares information from The North American Council for Freight Efficiency on alternative fuels and the advantages and disadvantages of each.

- **Advisory**
- **Market Potential for Commercial Electric Trucking Website**
- Contact: [Brian Sloboda](#)

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**Discover the value of NRECA membership. Learn more.**

This is a promotion from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association  
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