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NRECA Seeks Co-op Participation in Two New Projects

• ACCESS Solar Project

The U.S Department of Energy (DOE), through the Solar Energy Technology Office (SETO), awarded NRECA a cooperative agreement to research how to make solar energy affordable for communities with fewer financial resources and extend the benefits of solar development to low-and moderate-income consumers. We have an extensive team of industry stakeholders participating, including cooperatives to help inform and guide the research. **NRECA is currently seeking four additional cooperatives to be leaders in this effort.** The following advisory provides details:

- **Advisory**
- Contacts: [Adaora Ifebigh](#) and [Maria Kanevsky](#)

• Predictive Maintenance Tool Project for Distribution Feeders

Detecting the degradation of distribution feeder components is essential for a reliable and resilient power system. Present approaches are often reactive, while a proactive system that identifies the potential causes for faults and recommends mitigation strategies would be advantageous. **NRECA is seeking five co-op partners** to advise and provide data for the development of the *Incipient Failure Identification for Common Grid Asset Classes* (IFID) project, which will initiate predictive and prescriptive maintenance tools for distribution utilities. NRECA has partnered with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) on this effort. The following advisory provides further details. **Notification of interest is requested by July 31, 2020.**

- **Advisory**
- Contact: [Meredith Miller](#)

RC3 Online Cybersecurity Self-Assessment Webinar Series – Final Session July 14

More than 450 of NRECA's member cooperatives are participating in the RC3 Online Cybersecurity Self-Assessment program to learn about their current cybersecurity posture and make action plans for further improvements. We are offering a series of **five free webinars** to help cooperatives complete the five sections of the RC3 Self-Assessment, and hear lessons learned from cooperatives using the Self-Assessment. **The Self-Assessment can be used virtually and does not require staff to assemble in the same location.**

- **On Demand for Past Sessions:**
 - **How to Use NRECA's Online Self-Assessment**
 - **Overview, Lessons Learned, and Section 1 – Identify (Part 1)**
 - **Section 1 – Identify (Part 2)**
 - **Section 2 – Protect**

- [Register: July 14, 2-3:30pm ET – Sections 3, 4 and 5 – Detect, Respond, Recover](#)
- [RC3 Self-Assessment Website](#)
- Contacts: [Cynthia Hsu](#) and [Valerie Sayd](#)

MultiSpeak® Functional Sets Help Co-ops Ensure Interface Interoperability

The MultiSpeak Technical Committee members announce the new *MultiSpeak Function Sets*, based on the specific business processes that interfaces are expected to support. These sets establish the **minimum** requirements that a vendor would expect to support for the endpoint. By using these sets, co-ops can help ensure value in the products procured, while vendors retain the option to provide value *beyond* the Function Sets to meet consumer needs. Specifications for the function sets are available through the *MultiSpeak Guide Specifications*, for easy download and inclusion in your PO, RFQ or other purchasing documentation. Find the Guide Specifications in the Purchasing Support section of [MultiSpeakorg.net](#), or for individual purchase by those without a MultiSpeak membership in the [MultiSpeak Marketplace](#).

- Contact: [Tony Thomas](#) or Support@multispeak.org

Co-op Renewable Growth

Cooperative renewable resources have grown steadily since 2004, especially wind. Growth is set to accelerate in the next three years, driven in part by large solar projects. This new advisory reviews data on historic growth and planned additions and drivers, and provides insights into potential impacts of COVID-19.

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

Corrective and Predictive Maintenance for Pressure Parts

This Surveillance article is the last of a three-part series that reviews guidelines on pressure parts maintenance, based on the CEATI Thermal Generation Interest Group's report *Best Practice Guidelines for the Management of Pressure Parts in Power Plants*. This article examines the component management strategy and its link with preventative maintenance, corrective maintenance and predictive maintenance approaches to the pressure equipment; and emphasizes the importance of building an accurate database of pressure parts/components in power plants as part of component management strategy.

- [Article: Component Management Strategy](#)
- [Prior Articles In This Series](#)
- Contact: [Dan Walsh](#)

State-of-the-Art Review of Mobile Substations

New technologies and manufacturing innovations have resulted in more robust and compact designs of higher-capacity mobile substation equipment, revealing new opportunities for applications not previously practical. NRECA has a new three-part *Surveillance* article series based on CEATI Station Equipment Program's *State-of-the-Art Review of Mobile Substations*. This first article discusses mobile substation standards, highlights the findings of a literature search of mobile substations, and presents the results of a survey of vendors of mobile substation equipment.

- [Article](#)
- Contact: [Patti Metro](#)

Advancing Energy Access for All

NRECA's *Advancing Energy Access for All* initiative spotlights cooperatives' involvement in facilitating healthy communities, explores the innovative ways they do it, and uncovers new directions community assistance programs are taking. The efforts of Orcas Power and Light, Ouachita EC, and North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives to support their members are highlighted in a new *RE Magazine* article:

- [RE Magazine Article](#)
- [Advancing Energy Access for All Website](#)
- Contact: [Adaora Ifebigh](#)

Opportunity to Participate in COVID-19 Response Survey

NRECA and Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives are conducting a national COVID-19 Response Survey of electric cooperative consumer-members. The survey focus is on the co-op's response compared to other local organizations and member expectations of the co-op during the recovery. The report will be available to all co-ops in late August. **Your co-op is invited to participate in a DIY version of the national survey** conducted by NRECA and Touchstone Energy®. The core questions, instructions on conducting the survey online with your consumer-members, and social posts to promote your survey are available, or NRECA can provide you a custom link to the survey for your members to access. This effort will provide insights into your members' attitudes toward your co-op and give you benchmarking data.

- [DIY Survey Resources](#)
- Contact: [Mike Sassman](#)

Consumer Segmentation for Beneficial Electrification

With a growing industry focus on beneficial electrification, it is important to understand which groups of consumer-members may be interested, and how to tailor communications to the nuances of various consumer segments. This advisory reviews insights from a recent report sponsored in part by Touchstone Energy Cooperatives titled "Beneficial Electrification: The Voice of the Consumer" by the [Smart Energy Consumers Collaborative \(SECC\)](#). This report recaps the findings of a Maru/Matchbox survey of 1,200 consumers on topics related to beneficial electrification.

- [Advisory](#)
- Contacts: [Maria Kanevsky](#), [Jason McGrade](#), and [Mike Sassman](#)

WEBINAR OPPORTUNITIES

- RC3 Online Cybersecurity Self-Assessment Program
 - [On Demand: How to Use NRECA's Online Self-Assessment](#)
 - [On Demand: Overview, Lessons Learned, and Section 1 – Identify \(Part 1\)](#)
 - [On Demand: Section 1 – Identify \(Part 2\)](#)
 - [On Demand: Section 2 – Protect](#)
 - [Register: July 14, 2-3:30pm ET – Sections 3, 4 and 5 – Detect, Respond, Recover](#)
- [Impacts of COVID-19 on Renewable Energy and Storage Development](#)
On Demand
- [Impacts of Postponing or Canceling Annual Meetings and Director Elections due to COVID-1](#)
On Demand

- **Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM)**
On Demand
- **Series: Mitigating Bird Issues**
On Demand

Additional Resources Regarding the Impact of COVID-19 on Co-ops

NRECA has recently completed several analyses on the impact of COVID-19 on electric cooperatives, including economic, job sectors, and broadband. Below are links:

- **Financial Impact Report**
Contact: [Russell Tucker](#) and [Joe Goodenberg](#)
- **Financial Impact and Pathways to Relief**
Contact: [Allison Hamilton](#)
- **At Risk Job Sectors Report**
Contact: [Michael Leitman](#)
- **Impacts on Generation and Transmission Cooperatives**
Contacts: [Lauren Khair](#) and [Michael Leitman](#)
- **Impacts on Electricity Industry Sectors**
Contacts: [Lauren Khair](#) and [Michael Leitman](#)
- **Tools to Help Manage Energy Expenses**
Contact: [Brian Sloboda](#)
- **The Criticality of Broadband**
Contact: [Paul Breakman](#)
- **Business and Technology Resources to Use Virtually**
- **NRECA COVID-19 Hub**
- **Special Edition: Business and Technology Update**

See past issues of *Business and Technology Update* in our [archive on cooperative.com](#).

Discover the value of NRECA membership. Learn more.

This is a promotion from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
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