

## The Fundamentals of Great Leaders

A good leader might be lucky or follow happenstance. But a great leader must work at it. Kim Christiansen, NRECA's managing director of governance and business strategies, offers five fundamentals that are key to great leadership. Read more in the latest of NRECA's series "Tracey's Takeaways," a regular feature on [cooperative.com](#) focusing on employee development, management issues, leadership and organizational culture.

- [Five Fundamentals of Leaders](#)
- Contact: [Kim Christiansen](#)

## Technical Specification Guidelines for Mobile Substations

More robust and compact designs of higher-capacity mobile substation equipment are presenting new opportunities for applications. This article, the third and final in our series based on CEATI Station Equipment Program's *State-of-the-Art Review of Mobile Substations*, presents technical specification guidelines for mobile substations. The prior articles discussed standards and shared insights from literature search, vendor surveys and user experience.

- [Article: Technical Specification Guidelines](#)
- [Article Series](#)
- Contact: [Patti Metro](#)

## A New Energy Resource Model Initiative

The fuel mix for electric generating units is significantly and rapidly changing, incorporating more renewable generation, both utility-scale and behind-the-meter. This, in turn, is affecting how consumers interact with the generation resources, such as electric vehicles and smart meters, and consumers' relationship with their utility, including innovative rate structures. NRECA's new case study series explores the impact of these changes on the relationship between wholesale power suppliers and their distribution members, as they adapt to this new industry model and manage associated business disruption challenges. Read our first case study highlighting the collaboration between a G&T cooperative and its members as they achieve long-term, strategic goals.

- [Case Study: North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives](#)
- Contact: [Paul Breakman](#)

## Cybersecurity Self-Assessment Webinar Series Available On Demand

It is critical that cooperatives understand their cybersecurity posture and have insights into areas for improvement. NRECA's RC3 Online Cybersecurity Self-Assessment is available, along with a series of

instructional On Demand webinars and accompanying presentation materials. Members can also join our RC3 Participants professional community to discuss cybersecurity issues with the RC3 team and fellow cooperatives. **The Self-Assessment can be done virtually with staff and do not require people to be assembled in the same location.**

- [Self-Assessment](#)
- [RC3 Participants Community \(under Private Communities\)](#)
- Contact: [Cynthia Hsu](#)

## ACCESS Project to Explore Ways of Expanding Solar Availability

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. **NRECA is currently seeking four additional cooperatives to be leaders in this effort.** Find out more on our new website and within the following advisory:

- [Solar ACCESS Project Website](#)
- [Advisory](#)
- Contacts: [Adaora Ifebigh](#) and [Maria Kanevsky](#)

## DOE Wind Energy Webinar Available On Demand

On July 9, NRECA hosted a webinar with DOE's Wind Energy Technologies Office (WETO) to provide members with the opportunity to engage with the WETO to discuss members' perspectives on wind research and development, and future challenges and opportunities in supporting wind development. This webinar is now available On Demand.

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

## Guide for Joint Use

The need for broadband, which has intensified during this time of high levels of remote work, is increasing the need to add equipment to utility poles. Communications companies frequently lack knowledge of safety rules for joint use, placing the burden entirely on electricity cooperatives' Engineering and Operations staff to ensure compliance. This *Draft Guide for Joint Use: an Engineering & Operation Perspective*, developed by NRECA's Transmission and Distribution Engineering Committee (TDEC), gives a quick reference to key rules and industry expectations. Find out more in this advisory:

- [Advisory](#)
- Contact: [Robert Harris](#)

## FreeState Electric Cooperative Partners with Fort Leavenworth

Cooperatives are well-positioned to support the energy goals of the Department of Defense (DoD), the single largest energy consumer in the United States. See our latest case study showcasing how co-ops work closely with U.S. military installations, providing electricity and partnering on projects. FreeState Electric has a Utility Privatization (UP) contract to own, operate and maintain the distribution grid at Fort Leavenworth in Kansas,

achieving reliable service and cost savings.

- **Fort Leavenworth Case Study**
- **Working with the Military website**
- Contact: [Lauren Khair](#)

## Join the Reliability Benchmarking Group

System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI) is how to measure your cooperative's distribution reliability. The Reliability Benchmarking Group (RBG) is a group of cooperatives that provide outage data to help NRECA with outage statistics. The basic version of Aerinet's PwrMetrix [data analytics product](#) is available at no cost to members of the RBG to compare and benchmark their reliability scores with their peers. Would you like to learn more about your outages and how to improve your SAIDI score?

- **Join the Reliability Benchmarking Group**
- Contact: [Tony Thomas](#)

## WEBINAR OPPORTUNITIES

- **DOE Wind Technology Webinar**  
On Demand
- **"Future Of..." Series**  
On Demand
- **RC3 Online Cybersecurity Self-Assessment Program Instruction Series**  
On Demand
- **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-19**  
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**  
Contacts: [Russell Tucker](#) and [Joe Goodenbery](#)
- **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
- **How COVID-19 Is Impacting 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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