

# Business & Technology Update



Thursday, April 4, 2019 | [coop.com](http://coop.com) | [BTS Website](#) | [Archive](#) | [Web Version](#) |

## Cybersecurity Summit and Classes at Carnegie Mellon

Join us for our next RC3 Cybersecurity Summit and Classes on June 4-5 at Carnegie Mellon University to hear the latest on cybersecurity for small- and mid-sized distribution cooperatives. The Summits are not technical sessions, and any members responsible for cybersecurity decisions at their co-ops are encouraged to attend. On June 4th, we will offer two different afternoon cybersecurity classes. June 5th is a full day Summit with presentations on cutting-edge cybersecurity research, legal considerations, insider threats, E-ISAC, NRECA's cybersecurity resources, and more. **Registration is free.**

- **Registration**
- **RC3 2018-2019 Summits Website**
- Contact for Questions: [Cynthia Hsu](#)

## Deadline Extended for NRECA's Co-op Technology Survey

NRECA recently sent out invitations to members to participate in updating our 2013 Co-op Technology Survey, to reflect the current state of technology policies and practices at cooperatives around the country. Results of this confidential and comprehensive survey will provide co-ops with insights and best practices for benchmarking and decision-making. All cooperatives are encouraged to participate, to achieve robust survey data. This advisory provides further details. If your cooperative did not receive the email invitation, please contact Mike Sassman at [mike.sassman@nreca.coop](mailto:mike.sassman@nreca.coop). Survey response is requested by April 15.

- **Advisory**
- Contacts for Questions: [Adaora Ifebigh](#) and [Mike Sassman](#)

## GridEx V Blog and Webinar

NRECA members are invited to the American Public Power Association (APPA) free webinar "Get Ready to Participate in GridEx V" on April 11 from 11 a.m. to noon Eastern. The E-ISAC will give a brief background on the NERC cybersecurity exercise and how to register to participate, and Ken Lewis of Salt River Project and Eric Ruskamp of Lincoln Electric System will share insights on their utilities' participation and the importance of utilizing GridEx to identify opportunities for cybersecurity improvement. NERC's GridEx exercise happens every two years.

- Webinar: **Get Ready to Participate in GridEx V**
- Blog: **Five reasons why your utility should participate in GridEx V**
- **NERC GridEx V**
- Contact for Questions: [Cynthia Hsu](#)

## DOE Funding Opportunity for Co-ops Serving Tribal Lands

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), through the Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs, has announced the availability of up to \$17 million in new grant funding to deploy energy infrastructure on tribal lands. Any "organization" of two or more entities, at least one of which is an Indian tribe, can apply for the grant. This advisory provides more information.

- **Advisory**

### Upcoming Events

- **APPA Webinar: Get Ready to Participate in GridEx V**  
April 11 at 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- **EnergySec Cybersecurity Education Week**  
April 29 - May 3 in Charlotte, NC  
Discount for NRECA Members: Use Promotional Code 30RC3
- **Technology Planning, Decision Making and Leadership: Enhancing Organizational Effectiveness**
  - **Portland: May 14-15** (8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)
  - **San Antonio: October 22-23** (8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)
- **RC3 Cybersecurity Summit and Classes**  
June 4-5 at Carnegie Mellon
- **Cooperative Electric Vehicle Summit**  
June 11, Denver, CO



- [Contacts for Questions: Jim Horan and Adaora Ifeigh](#)

## Discount for EnergySec Cybersecurity Education Week: April 29-May 3

NRECA's Rural Cooperative Cybersecurity Capabilities Program (RC3) has negotiated a reduced registration fee for our members to attend a week-long cybersecurity training hosted by Energy Sector Security Consortium, Inc. (EnergySec). This training is April 29 - May 3 in Charlotte, NC and designed for utility cybersecurity professionals. Instead of the normal registration fee of \$3,495, members can register for \$2,500 using Promotional Code 30RC3.

- [Agenda and Registration](#)
- [More information on EnergySec](#)
- [Contact for Questions: Adaora Ifeigh](#)

## CoBank's Cooperative Electric Vehicle Summit

At this concentrated one-day event on June 11 in Denver, CO, electric cooperative management teams will have the opportunity to engage with experts and peers on a variety of topics focused on the utilities' role in electric vehicle integration with the grid, including drivers and benefits, load management, rates, deployment strategies, among others. Presentations from key industry leaders will give participants the confidence to develop and execute a strategy around electric vehicles to take back to their cooperative. NRECA is proud to be a sponsor of this event.

- [Registration](#)
- [Contacts for Questions: Brian Sloboda \(NRECA\) and Tamra Reynolds \(CoBank\)](#)

## Co-ops Needed for New Coalition about NFPA Proposed Standard 855

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has issued a proposed standard regarding the installation of Energy Storage Systems, including those at substations. Given the expected high costs and undue burden that could result from this proposed standard, EEI is organizing a coalition to be involved in the development of NFPA 855. Members are encouraged to review a drafted strategy from EEI and to attend an upcoming NFPA technical meeting in June. Details are provided in this advisory:

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

## Upcoming Opportunity to Participate in RC3 Cybersecurity SANS Voucher Program

Cybersecurity is a constantly evolving challenge that requires continuous education and training. NRECA's Rural Cooperative Cybersecurity Capabilities (RC3) Program launched the RC3 SANS Voucher Program to help address cybersecurity training gaps. 78 cooperatives to date have benefitted from this program, and the next opportunity to apply to participate will be announced in our newsletter and website by early May.

- [RC3 Website](#)
- [Contact for Questions: Lauren Khair](#)

## New Guide Explains Changes in IEEE Standard for DER Interconnections

IEEE standard 1547-2003 governing distributed energy resources (DER) interconnections was written focusing on ensuring that DER did not interfere with the normal operation of the distribution system's regulation and protection systems. Now that growth in DER is having



significant impact on systems, IEEE 1547-2018 was developed to ensure Bulk Power System (BPS) dynamic and transient stability. This new Guide helps explain the changes and new features in the 1547-2018 standard and associated effects on cooperatives.

- **Guide**
- Contact for Questions: [Robert Harris](#)

## Learn How to Develop a Technology Plan at Co-op University

Join us at Co-op University for a course designed to help IT professionals as well as non-IT managers across your co-op understand how to develop a technology plan. This course delivers a proven planning process, best management practices, and analytical tools and resources crucial for effective technology planning, decision making, and leadership. Over the two-day course, you will experience three interactive hands-on exercises and be introduced to a step-by-step approach to developing a Technology Plan. There are two sessions offered:

- **Portland, OR: May 14-15**
- **San Antonio, TX: October 22-23**
- Contact for Questions: [Janet Bowers](#)

## 2020 TechAdvantage Call for Presentations

On the heels of another successful TechAdvantage Conference and Expo, it is time to start planning for next year. You are invited to submit a proposal for a presentation to share your know-how, experience, and expertise during the 2020 Conference, which will be held in the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA, March 2–4. This is an unparalleled opportunity reach key electric cooperative CEOs and professionals in engineering, operations, IT, supply management and energy services.

- **More information**
- Contact for Questions: [Mary Ackleson](#)

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

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