

Business & Technology Update



Thursday, August 22, 2019 | coop.com | [BTS Website](#) | [Archive](#) | [Web Version](#) |

New RC3 Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise (TTX) Toolkit Available for Members

Test your co-op's ability to assess and respond to potentially damaging cyber incidents with NRECA's new RC3 Cybersecurity TTX Toolkit. Developed by NRECA with cybersecurity consultant Delta Risk, LLC, the RC3 TTX Toolkit provides relevant cybersecurity incident scenarios with real world implications to help your cooperative improve your cybersecurity posture. There are three categories of scenarios designed to meet a broad range of cooperative skills. **Free for NRECA members.**

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

Saving Energy with Commercial Refrigerator and Freezer Systems

Refrigerator and freezer display cases are an often overlooked area for energy efficiency improvements. Studies suggest that cases with doors not only save energy but can boost product sales. NRECA is working with our research partner CEATI to develop an easy tool for cooperatives to use in helping commercial customers evaluate the effectiveness of refrigerator upgrades for their facility. This new advisory provides a high-level overview of the market, misconceptions about refrigerator and freezer systems energy use, and suggested areas for energy efficiency improvement.

- **Advisory**
- Contact for Questions: [Brian Sloboda](#)

Upcoming Webinar Features Ouachita's On-Bill Financing Program for Energy Efficiency Upgrades: August 27

As part of its commitment to helping address the dual problems of poverty and energy inefficiency, Ouachita Electric Cooperative launched an opt-in, tariffed, on-bill program for cost-effective energy efficiency investments with the approval of the Arkansas PSC. While the program is not specifically targeted at low-income members, Ouachita has for the first time been able to finance efficiency upgrades in multi-family housing, and renters have accounted for approximately one-third of program participants. This advisory, part of our *Advancing Energy Access for All* initiative, highlights Ouachita's efforts and how they have benefited members.

Listen in to hear Ouachita's GM, Mark Cayce, discuss this program during a Smart Energy Consumer Collaborative "Peer Connect Webinar" on August 27.

- **Ouachita Case Study**
- **SECC Webinar "Innovative Billing Strategies"**
- **Advancing Energy Access for All Website**
- Contacts for Questions: [Keith Dennis](#) and [Adaora Ifebigh](#)

Call for Presentations for the 2nd ACEEE Rural Energy Conference: Deadline August 23

Upcoming Events

- **Smart Energy Consumer Collaborative Webinar: Innovative Billing Strategies**
Featuring Ouachita's GM, Mark Cayce
August 27
- **EnergySec Cybersecurity Education Week:**
September 23-27, Colorado Springs, CO
- **2019 G&T Resource Planners Association Conference**
October 15-17, Lexington, KY
- **Technology Planning, Decision Making and Leadership: Enhancing Organizational Effectiveness**
October 22-23, San Antonio, TX



ACEEE is accepting submissions for their second Rural Energy Conference, a one-day, multi-track event. Join other energy experts in submitting your presentation idea about projects, programs, and research results that save energy and spur economic growth in rural areas and small towns. This conference will feature keynote addresses, plenaries, interactive breakout sessions, ample networking opportunities, and the perfect platform to delve into clean energy solutions tailored for rural homes, businesses, institutions, factories, and farms. For information on some of NRECA's resources highlighting how co-ops are assisting those in need and supporting economic growth see: [Advancing Energy Access for All Initiative](#) and [Broadband Case Studies](#).

- Contacts for Questions: [Adaora Ifeigh](#) (Advancing Energy Access for All) and [Paul Breakman](#) (Broadband)

Charging Infrastructure for Electric Trucks

Charging infrastructure is cited as one of the largest unknowns and sources of anxiety for fleets owners and utilities considering near-term adoption of commercial battery electric vehicles (CBEVs). While there is no "one size fits all" solution to charging, there are common steps and considerations that any fleet owner considering deployment of electric trucks should undertake in order to ensure that they have a complementary and cost-effective charging strategy in place. This advisory provides an overview of the North American Council for Freight Efficiency's [Guidance Report, Amping Up: Charging Infrastructure for Electric Trucks](#).

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

Sandhills Deploys Grid Energy Router to Improve Energy Resiliency

The changing nature of the grid and changing consumer member needs may require the deployment of advanced technology on distribution feeders. The second-generation grid energy router, referred to as GER, leverages years of field work with the single-phase grid energy router. Installations of these distributed devices within microgrids have the potential to modernize the distribution grid, while decreasing demand and energy and achieving near perfect power quality. This Surveillance article features the deployment of the first 3-phase grid energy router (GER) by Sandhills Utility Services, LLC that promises to improve energy resiliency at North Carolina's largest military base, Fort Bragg.

- **Article**
- Contact for Questions: [Brian Sloboda](#)

Reliability Benchmarking Group (RBG) Offers Easy Online App for Members

Join over 100 cooperatives who are using an online web app to calculate SAIDI automatically and accurately without using other complicated and expensive methods. The Reliability Benchmarking Group web app can track and analyze the outage data, benchmark cooperatives with each other nationwide, and provide real-time data through special tools in the program. Find out more and sign-up on [cooperative.com](#).

- **More Information and Sign-up**
- Contact for Questions: [Tony Thomas](#)

Highlights from AREGC's 70th Annual Conference

The Association of Rural Electric Generating Cooperatives (AREGC) recently hosted their 70th annual conference. Attendees discussed solutions to operation and maintenance challenges and learned about new technologies affecting the electric generation industry. The



challenges affecting the industry include increasing penetration of renewables causing increased cyclic operation, the need for more flexibility from existing assets, digitalization, a transitioning workforce, and other resource constraints. To address industry trends in a changing landscape, cooperatives are looking at various solutions, such as flexibility testing, repowering, and carbon capture. This advisory provides highlights from the conference.

- **Advisory**
- Contacts for Questions: [Dan Walsh](#) and [Lauren Khair](#)

Discount for Next EnergySec Cybersecurity Education Week: September 23-27

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 next training is September 23-27 in Colorado Springs, CO 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.

- **Registration**
- Contact for Questions: [Adaora Ifeigh](#)

G&T Resource Planners Association Conference: Hotel Deadline September 23

Registration is open for the 2019 G&T Resource Planning Association Conference, Oct. 15-17, 2019 in Lexington, Kentucky. Hosted by [East Kentucky Power Cooperative](#), this year's presentation topics include Small Modular Reactors, Economic Dispatch Modeling, and more. Join us for this event where we'll also tour East Kentucky Power Cooperative's Solar Facility and Market Operations Center and have some great networking opportunities to help you share best practices and connect with other cooperative planners around the country. After you register, make sure to [book your stay](#) at the event venue before the discounted hotel rate expires September 23.

- **Additional Information and Registration**
- Contact for Questions: [Allison Hamilton](#)

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