

Business & Technology Update



Friday, August 9, 2019 | coop.com | [BTS Website](#) | [Archive](#) | [Web Version](#) |

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 new 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 new 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](#)

Consolidated Cooperative Responds to Member Critical Needs

For decades, electric cooperatives have maintained a variety of community assistance programs. Operation Round Up® is one of the most successful of these, and hundreds of cooperatives use the program to provide the financial resources necessary to assist those in need in their communities on a sustainable, ongoing basis. This new case study focuses on the efforts of Consolidated Cooperative in assisting community institutions and households with critical needs through their nonprofit People Fund, part of the Operation Round Up®. This case study is part of NRECA's "Advancing Energy Access for All" initiative, and is one example of a wide effort by cooperatives to provide relief to those who are struggling in the communities they serve.

- **Case Study**
- Related Website: [Advancing Energy Access for All](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Adaora Ifebigh](#)

Dynamic Line Ratings

According to the American Society of Civil Engineers, more than 640,000 circuit miles of transmission line in the U.S. are operating at or above their rated capacities. The consequences of this congestion can include involuntary delays in routine maintenance, reliability challenges,

Upcoming Events

- 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



and higher electric costs due to out-of-merit dispatch. This new advisory explains how dynamic line ratings (DLRs) can offer a relatively affordable way to upgrade the capacity of existing transmission lines.

- **Advisory**
- Contact for Questions: [Michael Leitman](#)

RC3 Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise Toolkit Available by August 15

NRECA's Rural Cooperative Cybersecurity Capabilities (RC3) Program worked with cybersecurity consultant Delta Risk, LLC, to develop the RC3 Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise Toolkit. A tabletop exercise for cybersecurity provides a structured opportunity to test your cooperative's ability to assess and respond to a potentially damaging cyber incident. The RC3 TTX Toolkit provides relevant cybersecurity incident scenarios with real world implications and will be available to members by August 15 on cooperative.com.

- **RC3 TTX** (Available by August 15)
- Background Information on RC3 TTX: [FAQ](#) and [Factsheet](#)
- **RC3 Website**
- Contacts for Questions: [Adaora Ifebigh](#) and [Cynthia Hsu](#)



Updated Design Guide for Rural Substations

The Transmission Distribution Engineering Committee (TDEC) Substation Subcommittee completed a revision to RUS Bulletin 1724E-300 Design Guide for Rural Substations. The Guide is intended to be used by cooperatives, their consulting and staff engineers, and others interested in rural substation design and construction, concerns, and considerations. It is being posted on cooperative.com as a **DRAFT ONLY** reference document for NRECA members until RUS has completed its approval process, at which time it will be publicly posted by RUS and removed from cooperative.com.

- **Draft Guide**
- Contact for Questions: [Patti Metro](#)

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 new advisory provides highlights from the conference.

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

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

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:

- **ACEEE Rural Energy Conference**
- Contacts for Questions: [Adaora Ifebigh](#) (Advancing Energy Access for All) and [Paul Breakman](#) (Broadband)

NFPA Technical Committee Votes Down Exclusion for Utilities Under Standard 855

At the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) annual meeting, voting secured a scope-level exclusion for utilities under NFPA 855, Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems. The exclusion would allow cooperatives to continue following only NESC (National Electrical Safety Code) rules for facilities already governed by that code instead of also following an NFPA code for most types of utility battery systems. However, the NFPA Technical Committee later voted this change down. NRECA is working with EEI to file an appeal to NFPA's Standards Council to reconsider. Further details on this important issue are provided in the following advisory:

- **Advisory**
- Related NRECA Information on NFPA 855
 - Advisory: **[Overview - National Fire Protection Association \(NFPA\) Standard 855 for Energy Storage Systems](#)**
- Contact for Questions: [Robert Harris](#)

Finding and Addressing Generator Faults

Generation & transmission cooperatives with significant wind penetration in their service territories or the markets in which they operate may need to cycle their fossil-fuel fired plants in response to wind ramping. It is important for co-op engineering staff to understand the new operating regimes, common failure modes, appropriate test and inspection methods, and how to apply this knowledge when faced with major repair decisions. These NRECA Surveillance articles provide a summary of the recent CEATI Generator Maintenance and Condition Assessment Guide, providing concise information on the fault mechanisms of turbine/generators and the damage they can cause, and guidance on the types of off-line and on-line tests and monitoring systems that can be used to detect and correct generator fault mechanisms.

- Article 1: **[Generator Failure Mechanisms: What Can Go Wrong](#)**
- Article 2: **[Off-line and On-line Testing: How to Find Generator Faults](#)**
- Contacts for Questions: [Dan Walsh](#) and [Dale Bradshaw](#)

Improving Manufactured Homes Efficiency

Recently, government agencies and electric industry stakeholders have considered the effectiveness of whole home replacements for inefficient manufactured homes as opposed to the more traditional energy-efficiency measures on the existing homes. In what situations is manufactured home replacement more cost-effective than other efficiency improvements such as weatherization? This paper provides an update on NRECA's prior reports on manufactured home weatherization opportunities, presents weatherization efforts undertaken by several co-ops, and explores funding mechanisms that can be used to implement these improvements.

- **Article**
- Contacts for Questions: [Adaora Ifebigh](#)

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 Ifebigh](#)

2019 G&T Resource Planners Association Conference

Registration is now 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.

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

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