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TechAdvantage® Conference and Expo is quickly approaching! This newsletter notes several opportunities to hear firsthand about NRECA's business and technology research and resources for cooperatives. We hope to see you March 11-13 in Orlando, Florida!

Upcoming Events

2019 TechAdvantage® Conference and Expo March 10-13, Orlando, FL

Changes to IEEE Standard 1547 for DER Interconnections

IEEE standard 1547 has been undergoing changes to reflect the evolving DER market and its effects on our industry:

IEEE 1547-2018

IEEE 1547-2018 modified the prior IEEE 1547-2003, to change focus from ensuring DERs did not interfere with normal operations to focusing instead on ensuring Bulk Power System (BPS) dynamic and transient stability. The following advisory reviews the updated standard, and NRECA will be discussing the changes and new features to this standard during a session at TechAdvantage.

- [Advisory on 1547-2018](#)
- Contact for Questions: Robert Harris

RELATED TECHADVANTAGE SESSION:

New Interconnection Requirements: Guide to IEEE 1547-2018

Monday, March 11 at 11:15 a.m.

IEEE 1547.1

IEEE 1547.1 is the test standard needed to put the base IEEE 1547 standard for DER interconnection into action. This new Surveillance article explains the proposed changes, describes how they will affect interconnection processes at rural electric cooperative distribution systems, and provides details on how cooperatives can become involved in the upcoming important ballot process regarding the proposed changes.

- [Article on 1547.1](#)
- Contact for Questions: Robert Harris



Provide Your Input for DOE RFI on

Efficient and Flexible Building Loads: Deadline Feb. 22

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Building Technologies Office (BTO) has issued a request for information (RFI) that seeks input from our industry to better understand where flexible building loads research goals can be refined to reflect market needs and inform related R&D activities. NRECA members are encouraged to submit comments directly to DOE or to provide input to NRECA by no later than February 22 to inform NRECA's submission. This new advisory explains this opportunity and how to submit comments.

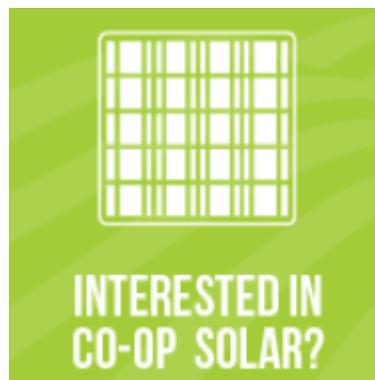
- **Advisory**
- Contacts for Questions: [Keith Dennis](#) and [Allison Hamilton](#)



Recruiting Field Demonstration Partners for Inverter Cybersecurity Project: Deadline Feb. 28

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, in partnership with NRECA, is conducting a research project to study the cybersecurity of systems that control inverters, and we are looking for cooperatives to serve as technical advisors. This research will analyze the stability of different control systems, and identify what parameters an attacker would change if DER and utility voltage regulation and protection systems were compromised. The team will develop simulation software that will allow utility engineers to explore scenarios using dynamic modeling and then to test how to mitigate cyberattacks. Letters of support are requested by February 28. See details in the following advisory.

- **Advisory**
- Contact for Questions: [David Pinney](#)



Get a Closer Look at the Utility Connected Home at TechAdvantage

The utility connected home is an opportunity for co-ops and end-use members to have a partnership in managing energy use with internet enabled appliances and devices. We'll be devoting some time on demand response strategies with utility connected homes during breakout sessions at NRECA's Annual Meeting and at TechAdvantage Conference in Orlando, Florida. Be sure to visit The Lab in the TechAdvantage Expo to tour a model utility connected home and test out the technologies! To prepare for your trip, read about the value of this concept for co-ops and their members, as well as elements of successful programs, in our article series on [cooperative.com](#).

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

RELATED ANNUAL MEETING & TECHADVANTAGE SESSIONS:

- **Annual Meeting**
March 12 at 1:00-2:00 p.m.
- **TechAdvantage Session: Utility Connected Home Strategies**
March 11 at 3:30 p.m.
- **The Lab: Utility Connected Home Model**

New RC3 Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise Toolkit Completes Beta Test

NRECA's Rural Cooperative Cybersecurity Capabilities (RC3) program is working on a new do-it-yourself toolkit to assist small and medium-sized cooperatives. The RC3 Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise (TTX) Toolkit has been through an initial round of beta testing at three cooperatives. Hear representatives from these cooperatives discuss what they learned from the cybersecurity incident tabletop exercise in a breakout session at TechAdvantage. The complete RC3 TTX Toolkit will be made available to all cooperatives later in 2019.

- **Advisory**
- Contact for Questions: [Adaora Ifebigh](#)

RELATED TECHADVANTAGE SESSION:

Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercises – Lessons Learned from Co-ops

Monday, March 11 at 11:15 a.m.

Insights from Participants 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. This new advisory provides details on the Program and shares some of the lessons learned by those who have completed SANS courses to date. Come hear further insights from some of the program participants at the breakout session at TechAdvantage; and learn about an upcoming opportunity to apply for participation.

- **Advisory**
- Contact for Questions: [Lauren Khair](#)

RELATED TECHADVANTAGE SESSION:

Beyond Passwords and Firewalls: Cybersecurity Tactics for Today's Co-op

Monday, March 11 at 10:00 a.m.

New Cybersecurity Self-Assessment Tool to Help Determine Your Co-op's Readiness

NRECA now offers a Cybersecurity Self-Assessment DIY [Toolkit](#) to help member co-ops to identify cyber threats and vulnerabilities. The Rural Cooperative Cybersecurity Capabilities Program staff designed the toolkit to provide a starting point for small- and medium-sized co-ops in the early stages of developing a cybersecurity program. Read more in this new FAQ, and access the Toolkit through the link below:

- [FAQ](#)
- [RC3 Cybersecurity Self- Assessment DIY Toolkit](#)
- Contacts for Questions: [Cynthia Hsu](#)

Learn About MultiSpeak®

MultiSpeak is making co-ops proud as the latest iteration of this cooperative-built software integration tool is earning interest from utilities and vendors overseas. This month's RE Magazine features details on this development. Join us at TechAdvantage to learn more about MultiSpeak at a Pre-Conference Workshop and at a Breakout Session.

- [Article](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Tony Thomas](#)

RELATED TECHADVANTAGE SESSIONS:

- [Pre-Conference Workshop: MultiSpeak Integrator Training](#)
Sunday, March 10 at 10:30 a.m.
- [Breakout Session: Optimizing Your Distribution System and Unlocking the Value of Data](#)
Tuesday, March 12 at 10:30 a.m.

Analysis of 2017 Co-op Fuel Mix

NRECA recently completed its annual analysis of the electric cooperative retail fuel mix. This new advisory reviews the findings of this analysis, showing that there were only minor shifts from 2016 to 2017, and that the ongoing trends of inexpensive natural gas and steady growth in renewable generation continue to impact the electric resource supply mix of electric cooperatives.

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

Many Business and Technology Offerings at TechAdvantage

Throughout this newsletter, we have noted some of the sessions that will be offered at the upcoming Annual Meeting and TechAdvantage Conference and Expo, including IEEE Standard for DER

Interconnections, Utility Connected Home, MultiSpeak, and Cybersecurity topics. Many other business and technology sessions are also part of the robust conference agenda, including Broadband, Solar and Energy Storage, Analytics, and more. Visit the TechAdvantage website for a full list of the Pre-conference and Breakout Sessions, and come talk with our Business and Technology Strategies team at the NRECA booth in the Expo.

- [TechAdvantage 2019 website](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Mary Ackleson](#)

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