

## Business & Technology Update



Thursday, January 9, 2020 | [coop.com](http://coop.com) | [BTS Website](#) | [Archive](#) | [Web Version](#) |

### Creating Consumer and Community Value

Co-ops return an estimated \$12 billion to communities every year, and many co-ops go above and beyond to create value for consumers and communities. At this year's *CEO Close-Up*, a panel of co-op leaders will discuss their unique strategies to reach low- and moderate-income consumers, and approaches for engaging co-op directors and employees. Come hear their insights and lessons learned, and all are invited to join our new *Energy Access for All* professional community for discussions on ways to serve co-op communities.

- **CEO Close-up Registration**
- **Community Sign-up**
- Contacts: Keith Dennis and Adaora Ifebigh

### NREL and NRECA Partnership with Holy Cross Energy Sets a National Example for Grid Control

In the rugged foothills of Basalt, CO, NREL and NRECA are partnering to test one of NREL's most novel grid operation solutions with cooperative members of Holy Cross Energy. This effort brings NREL's lab simulations into the real world to test new energy systems for achieving renewable energy goals. A key component of this is the MultiSpeak® interoperability standard, allowing the ADMS to communicate with NREL's grid simulator.

- **Article**
- Contact: Tony Thomas

### Opportunity to Participate in Distributed Wind Project: Deadline January 31

The U.S. Department of Energy announced a \$3 million research grant to support an initiative spearheaded by NRECA to study electric cooperative deployment of distributed wind resources. NRECA is seeking co-op partners to advise and provide guidance in the identification of gaps and creation of solutions that enable increased deployment of distributed wind generation across the country. **Deadline for co-ops to express interest is January 31.**

- **Advisory**
- Contact: Michael Leitman

### 5 of Top 10 RE Magazine Articles of 2019 Focus on Business and Technology Strategies

See what articles in *RE Magazine* ranked the top with members based on pageviews. You'll find diverse topics, with 5 of the top 10 being articles based on work from NRECA's Business and Technology Strategies group.

#### Upcoming Events

- **CEO Close-Up**  
January 12-15, Palm Desert, CA
- **2020 TechAdvantage® Experience**  
March 1-4, 2020, New Orleans, LA
- **Electrification 2020 International Conference & Exposition**  
April 6-9, 2020, Charlotte, NC
- **2020 Safety Leadership Summit**  
April 15-17, Orlando, FL



- **More Information**
- Contact: [Scot Hoffman](#)

## Optimizing Power Plant Maintenance and Analyzing Equipment Performance

Numerous methods for addressing risk in the power industry have been developed. This article is the first in a two-part series to critically review and assess the current status of the risk-based management approach for the optimization of maintenance in thermal power plants (both conventional and combined cycle). This series is based on the CEATI Thermal Generation Interest Group's *Maintenance Optimization Using Risk-Based Tools* report.

- **Article**
- Contact: [Dan Walsh](#)

## NEETRAC December Newsletter Now Available

Our members are able to benefit from the National Electric Energy Testing Research and Applications Center's (NEETRAC's) research and reporting through a membership established by NRECA. Their latest newsletter is now available to members.

- **NEETRAC Newsletter**
- Contact: [Robert Harris](#)

## NRECA Sponsors Electrification Conference

NRECA is proud to be an official Supporting Organization of the [Electrification 2020 International Conference & Exposition](#), being hosted by the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) on April 6-9 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Seven [agenda tracks](#) will address the issues that matter to organizations across industry sectors. Register today, before the prices increase on February 1.

- **Conference Registration**
- **More Information**
- Contacts: [Keith Dennis](#) and [Maria Kanevsky](#)

## RE Magazine Trends Issue: 10 Key Evolving Grid Technologies

From advanced inverters to interconnection standards, power electronics to drones, the evolving grid will rely on certain key technologies to function properly. In the December issue of *RE Magazine*, co-op experts explain 10 of the most important.

- **10 Key Technologies**

## NERC Releases Annual Long-Term Reliability Assessment

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) annually performs a long-term reliability assessments (LTRA) of the North American bulk power system. The 2019 LTRA provides a 10-year outlook, identifying potential risks to inform industry planners and operators, regulators, and policy makers.

- **Advisory**
- Contact: [Paul McCurley](#)



## Strategies for Peak Demand Pricing

Peak demand charges have traditionally been recovered through volumetric rates based on kWh usage. Residential demand charges and peak-time rebates are two ways that utilities can incorporate the demand component into their pricing structures, while sending appropriate signals to consumer-members and allowing them the opportunity to control their bills.

- **Advisory**
- Contact: [Allison Hamilton](#)

## Business and Technology Sessions at 2020 TechAdvantage Experience

Join us at this year's *TechAdvantage Experience* and hear about business and technology challenges and opportunities, including battery energy storage, electric vehicles, cybersecurity, broadband, and more. Visit [TechAdvantage.org](https://www.techadvantage.org) for a complete list of all breakout sessions and pre-conference workshops.

- **Registration**
- Contact: [Mary Ackleson](#)

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