

Business & Technology Update



Thursday, May 2, 2019 | coop.com | [BTS Website](#) | [Archive](#) | [Web Version](#) |

Zero Contacts Celebrates One-Year Anniversary – New Resources Added to the Toolkit

Since its launch in April 2018, the Commitment to Zero Contacts safety initiative has 540+ CEO commitments across 42 states. Two new resources have been added to the to the Commitment to Zero Contacts Toolkit: Online Resource Order Form and Commitment to Zero Contacts Coins.

- **Commitment to Zero Contact Toolkit**
- Podcast: [Along Those Lines, Episode 7: Zero Contacts— Keeping Line Crews Safe](#)
- Contact for Questions: Bud Branham

Newly Updated: Battery Energy Storage Overview Report

Battery energy storage systems (BESS) can be used for a variety of applications to provide benefits to electric cooperatives and their consumer-members. NRECA, along with CFC, CoBank, and NRTC, recently updated our Battery Energy Storage Overview report to reflect the latest developments with two principal technologies leading battery energy storage deployment – lithium-ion and flow batteries – and to provide case studies of cooperative energy storage initiatives.

- **Report**
- Contact for Questions: [Jan Ahlen](#)

Wind Turbine Leading Edge Erosion

With wind technology becoming more mature and widespread, resource planners and plant operators need to understand how to maintain these turbines to ensure they are running in optimal conditions. One key maintenance issue is leading edge erosion. This new advisory explains this condition and the risk it presents to wind generation assets.

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

Electric Vehicle Summit Offered by CoBank

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)

Upcoming Events

- **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.)
- **EnergySec Cybersecurity Training Week**
June 3-7, Austin, TX
- **RC3 Cybersecurity Summit and Classes**
June 4-5 at Carnegie Mellon
- **Cooperative Electric Vehicle Summit**
June 11, Denver, CO
- **Beneficial Electrification – Electrify Colorado!**
June 12, Denver, CO
Hold the date; registration information coming soon!
- **AREGC Conference**
June 23-26, Point Clear, AL



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

Today is the Deadline to Submit Your TechAdvantage® 2020 Proposal

Don't miss the opportunity to present in New Orleans, March 2-4, 2020. Deadline for submissions has been extended to 5 pm EST, today!

TechAdvantage® is the electric co-op industry's biggest, and most important, gathering for those looking for the latest and greatest technology products and solutions. Attendees are specifically interested in hearing about real world scenarios and cases presented by cooperative utilities and their partners. If you have a solution to share, this is your chance to showcase it. Go to www.Techadvantage.org to see the complete list of topics and to submit your proposal today!

- **Contact for Questions:** Mary Ackleson

Co-ops Working with the Military for Resiliency

The Department of Defense (DoD) is one of the largest energy consumers worldwide and the single largest energy consumer in the United States. Over 80 cooperatives work closely with U.S. military installations, providing electricity and partnering on projects. Visit our website on cooperative.com for an updated map of where co-ops are working with the military, as well as resources from the recent TechAdvantage® session, *Cooperative Contributions to Military Resiliency*, to find lessons learned from co-op case studies.

- **Website**
- **Contact for Questions:** Lauren Khair

Understanding Policy and Strategy Around Beneficial Electrification

Beneficial Electrification, the increased electrification of a variety of sectors of our economy— from transportation to farm equipment— provides potential benefits to electric cooperatives across the country. With this change comes legal and policy challenges and opportunities. NRECA's own Keith Dennis, Senior Director of Strategic Initiatives, wrote a recent editorial for the NRECA Legal Reporting Service to help explain the broader policy and strategic context around the Beneficial Electrification initiative. Members interested in NRECA's Legal Reporting Service can subscribe using the link below.

- **Editorial**
- **NRECA Legal Reporting Service Subscription**
- **Contact for Questions:** Keith Dennis

Seeking MultiSpeak® Case Studies

In support of *Cooperation Among Cooperatives*, NRECA features case studies on the co-op implementation of MultiSpeak® and the lessons learned with this Standard for efficient system integration. MultiSpeak is used in more than 800 electric cooperatives, investor-owned utilities, municipals, public power districts, water and gas utilities, universities and Department of Defense in more than 21 different countries



worldwide. If you use MultiSpeak and would be interested in us sharing your story, please contact Tony Thomas at Tony.Thomas@nreca.coop.

- **MultiSpeak Website**
- Contact for Questions: [Tony Thomas](#)

DOE Voices of Experience Highlight AMI Opportunities

How utilities are leveraging their AMI networks and data to improve operations and customer relationships, and how MultiSpeak® is being applied for system integration, was the topic of a new guidebook by DOE's Voices of Experience. This initiative sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Electricity's Advanced Grid Research group (AGR) is designed to bring utilities together to share their knowledge, insights and lessons learned through implementing the emerging technology that is reshaping the electric power industry. Visit DOE's Voices of Experience website for this new AMI guidebook.

- **DOE Voices of Experience Website**
- Contact for Questions: [Tony Thomas](#)

New Report Outlining the U.S. Economy's Impact on Rural America

NRECA and RE Advisers have published [2019 U.S. Economic Outlook-A Focus on Rural America](#), a new report that outlines several economic issues expected to impact rural electric cooperatives and likely to play a big role in the communities they serve. The report takes a fresh look at a number of issues and trends affecting the broader economy and examines their impact on co-ops specifically.

- **Report**
- Contacts for Questions:
 - Report: [Russell Tucker](#), NRECA 703-907-5823
 - Portfolio Management Perspectives: [Darryl Keeton](#), RE Advisers 703-907-6087

NEETRAC April 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. NEETRAC is a center within the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Georgia Tech that aims to help the electric utility industry solve the everyday problems associated with the complex task of transmitting and distributing electric energy reliably and efficiently. Their latest quarterly newsletter is available on NRECA's cooperative.com:

- **NEETRAC April 2019 Newsletter**
- Contact for Questions: [Robert Harris](#)

Discount for Next EnergySec Cybersecurity Education Week: June 3-7

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 June 3-7 in Austin, TX 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](#)

DID YOU MISS ANY OF OUR RECENT NEWSLETTERS?

Discover the value of NRECA membership. Learn more.

This is a promotion from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
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