

Business & Technology Update



Thursday, November 1, 2018 | coop.com | [BTS Website](#) | [Archive](#) | [Web Version](#) |

Opportunity for Members to Take SANS Cybersecurity Online Courses for Free

Forty-one (41) cooperatives improved their cybersecurity skills with NRECA's RC3 Cybersecurity SANS voucher program in 2018 to date, and with U.S. DOE funding support, a second group is now able to take this high-quality cybersecurity training at no registration cost. Registration is open and deadline for application is **November 16**.

- [Advisory and FAQ](#)
- [Application for Participation](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Lauren Khair](#)

Helping Members Control Electric Heat

Smart thermostat programs are one of the most popular utility offerings today, but to date, technology has not allowed electric resistance heating to be included. That will likely all change soon, as some Canadian companies are currently piloting products that provide similar functionality found in a Nest or Ecobee thermostat for baseboard heaters. This article examines those products and pilots, to provide insights and recommended next steps for cooperatives who may consider offering smart control programs for consumer-members with baseboard heat.

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

New Tools To Keep Animals Off Electric Equipment

From "flying winter snakes" to curious bears, animal-caused outages are among electric cooperatives' oldest challenges. A new RE Magazine article profiles co-ops that are deploying new tools, including innovative repellants and covers, and even data analytics, to keep critters out of substations and off lines.

- [Article](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Keith Dennis](#)

Online Courses on PV Safety and Impact Available to Members

Upcoming Events

- [RC3 Cybersecurity Summit and Classes](#) – December 11-12, Great River Energy, Maple Grove, MN – Full, Wait List Available
- [RC3 Cybersecurity Summit and Classes](#) – January 29-30, Idaho National Laboratory (Save the Date; Registration to Open Soon)
- [2019 TechAdvantage® Conference and Expo](#) – March 10-13, Orlando, FL

BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY STRATEGIES PORTFOLIO



PROVIDING SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONABLE ADVICE



RURAL COOPERATIVE CYBER SECURITY CAPABILITIES PROGRAM

Two one-hour online courses are now available to NRECA members regarding PV Safety Concerns and a PV System Impact Guide. NRECA has worked with SOS Intl, a leading training provider for electric utilities and NRECA Associate Member, to convert material developed during the Solar Utility Network Deployment Acceleration (SUNDA) project to create online courses for members. This advisory provides details on this opportunity:

- [Advisory](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Patti Metro](#)

Over 400 Co-op CEOs Make Commitment to Zero Contacts

Thank you to the hundreds of senior leaders across the cooperative network supporting the Commitment to Zero Contacts by taking the voluntary online pledge, reviewing safety plans with their teams, and incorporating the resources available in the Commitment to Zero Contacts Toolkit into their co-op's safety practices and communications. In just six months, 443 co-op CEOs across 41 states have made the commitment. Over 300 co-ops are using or testing the S.A.F.E. Job-Planning app with over 3,000 users and over 39,000 job briefings submitted. An emergency information placard and other resources are now available. Find out more in the advisory and toolkit below:

- [Advisory](#)
- [Toolkit](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Bud Branham](#)

NEETRAC October Newsletter Now Available

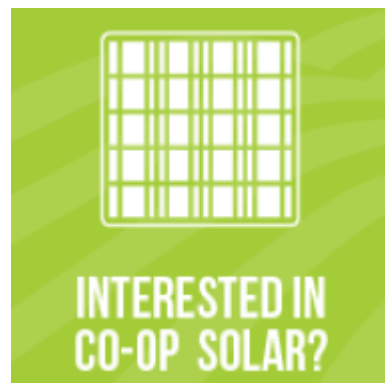
Our members are able to benefit from the National Electric Energy Testing Research and Applications Center's ([NEETRAC's](#)) research and reporting through a membership established by NRECA. NEETRAC is a center within the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Georgia Tech that aims to help 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 Newsletter](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Robert Harris](#)

Solar Power International Conference Reflects Changing Market

The recent 2018 Solar Power International conference demonstrated technological innovation and shared ideas on how our industry is evolving. Reflecting this market change, the conference has expanded from sole focus on solar PV to including other distributed energy resources, such as battery energy storage systems and electric vehicles. Read some key takeaways from the conference in this new advisory:

- [Advisory](#)
 - Contacts for Questions: [Jan Ahlen](#) and [Kaley Lockwood](#)
-



2019 TechAdvantage® Registration Now Open

Join us in Orlando, FL next March for our annual TechAdvantage® Conference and Expo, the must-attend event of the season for electric co-op engineering, operations, IT and supply chain management professionals. New this year, you will be able to choose among 20 different TechTalks in the TechPark. In addition, thirteen pre-conference workshops will address the most important technology issues affecting our electric co-op industry, including cybersecurity, broadband, distribution automation, infrastructure security, and drone technology.

- [Registration](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Mary Ackleson](#)

DID YOU MISS ANY OF OUR RECENT NEWSLETTERS?
[VISIT OUR ARCHIVE ON COOPERATIVE.COM.](#)

Discover the value of NRECA membership. [Learn more.](#)

This is a promotion from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
4301 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22203 | Tel: (703) 907-5500 | E-mail: nreca@nreca.coop

[Click here to unsubscribe](#)



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 