

Carbon XPRIZE Announces Winners

In the culmination of a six-year engineering competition, the NRG COSIA Carbon XPRIZE announced the final winners for both the coal – and natural gas – tracks. CarbonBuilt and Carbon Cure have been crowned the winners and each will receive \$7.5 million to continue advancing their carbon utilization technologies. Some of the competitors of the coal-track tested at the Wyoming Integrated Test Center (ITC), a carbon capture and utilization testing center attached to Basin Electric Power Cooperative's state-of-the-art coal-fired power plant in Gillette, Wyoming. NRECA has been part of a public-private partnership for the industrial-scale laboratory that was used to test the innovative methods for removing and utilizing carbon dioxide emissions from coal-fired power plants.

- [Press Release](#)
- [XPRIZE Website](#)
- [ITC Information](#)
- Contact: [Dan Walsh](#)

New Report Outlines the Impact of COVID-19 on the Economy in Rural America

NRECA economists and RE Advisers portfolio managers have published [2021 U.S. Economic Outlook: A Focus on Rural America](#), a new report that takes a look at economic conditions and the investment landscape, particularly in rural America, as the country emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic. The report also examines issues expected to be particularly impactful for rural electric cooperatives and likely to play a big role in shaping the economic health of the communities they serve.

- [Report](#)
- Contacts:
 - Report: [Joe Goodenbery](#)
 - Portfolio Management Perspective: [Dima Awamleh](#)

Webinar Today 2pm ET: Update on DCIP FY21 Funding

The Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program ([DCIP](#)) is designed to address deficiencies in community infrastructure supportive of a military installation in order to enhance the military value, resilience or military family quality of life. In Fiscal Year 2021, \$60 million is appropriated to this program for grant awards for state,

local governments and rural electric cooperatives. NRECA provides customized services to assist cooperatives in maximizing this opportunity. **Join us today, April 22, 2 p.m. EST** for a free webinar with further details.

- [Webinar Registration](#)
- [More Information about DCIP](#)
- [Website: Electric Co-ops and The Military](#)
- [Contacts: Lauren Khair and Maria Kanevsky](#)

Opportunity for Co-ops to Deploy New “Essence” Cybersecurity Tool

NRECA is seeking 55 cooperatives for deployment of a new diagnostic tool, Essence 2.0, which accelerates the detection of malicious cyber threats on systems **from months to seconds**. After success at initial test sites, DOE has awarded NRECA \$6M to deploy Essence to assist cooperatives and the electric industry as a whole. Visit our website to learn more, request a demo, or sign-up to see if your cooperative qualifies to participate in this project.

- [Website](#)
- [Fact Sheet](#)
- [Contacts: Doug Lambert and Emma Stewart at \[Essence@nreca.coop\]\(mailto:Essence@nreca.coop\)](#)

EPRI Papers on DER and Interconnections Now Public

The Electric Power Research Institute ([EPRI](#)) has been very active with implementation of the IEEE 1547-2018 standard for DER interconnections and related DER topics. To help move the technology forward, EPRI has made a number of their papers available at no charge to the public. This advisory reviews this development and provides a listing of the papers and corresponding links.

- [Advisory](#)
- [Contact: Robert Harris](#)

RADWIND: Resources on Distributed Wind Generation

NRECA's *Rural Area Distributed Wind Integration Network Development* ([RADWIND](#)) seeks to understand, address, and reduce the technical risks and market barriers to distributed wind adoption by rural utilities. The goal of the project is to reduce the barriers for distributed wind deployment, either as a standalone resource or as part of a hybrid power plant with other DER. Visit our website to learn about distributed wind through resources including a new Use Case Report, Case Study, and Survey Report.

- [Website](#)
- [Contacts: Michael Leitman, Maria Kanevsky and Venkat Banunarayanan](#)

Run On Less – Electric: Educational Series

The trucking industry is beginning its move to an electric future. To demonstrate this, NRECA has signed on as a sponsor of the [Run on Less - Electric](#) (RoL-E) project by the North American Council for Freight Efficiency (NACFE) and Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI). To kick off the event, they are offering a 10-part “bootcamp” educational series on electric trucks starting April 20. Co-op staff and their C&I members are invited to attend these events.

- [More Information](#)
- [Run On Less – Electric Website](#)
- Contact: [Brian Sloboda](#)

Carbon Capture Technologies to Meet Co-op Needs

Interest in technologies associated with carbon capture has been growing rapidly in both the public and private sectors in recent years, as government and industry grapple with how to move cost effectively to a low-carbon future. Through its National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is supporting the testing of a wide range of technologies. This article, the first of two, focuses on post-combustion capture (PCC), the technology class most likely to be retrofitted at the nation’s existing fossil fuel-fired power plants and the focus of DOE’s carbon capture program.

- [Article](#)
- Contacts: [Dan Walsh](#) and [Will Morris](#)

More MultiSpeak Guide Specifications Available

MultiSpeak® is a key industry-wide standard for system application interoperability currently in use at more than 800 electric cooperatives, investor-owned utilities, municipals, and public power districts in at least 21 different countries. MultiSpeak® Guide Specifications make specifying MultiSpeak compliant interfaces quick and easy, and NRECA has recently expanded the set to include Demand Response Guide Specifications. Using guide specifications enables vendors to know exactly what you want and enables you to know what you’re getting. Just download the appropriate MultiSpeak specification and add it to your purchasing and request for proposal documentation.

- [Guide Specifications](#) (select icon for “Information”)
- [MultiSpeak Website](#)
- Contact: [Tony Thomas](#)

2021 TechAdvantage® Sessions Available On Demand with ENCORE

If you attended the 2021 TechAdvantage Experience, you still have access to the recorded content, using your log in credentials, until April 30, 2021. For those who missed attending this year’s TechAdvantage Experience, you have the chance to benefit from the content through [TechAdvantage® ENCORE!](#) ENCORE gives you access to the same sessions that were delivered during the virtual TechAdvantage Experience. Content is available to watch at your leisure until June 25, 2021. Click [here](#) to learn more about TechAdvantage® ENCORE and how to purchase access to this valuable online product.

- [TechAdvantage® ENCORE](#)

- **TechAdvantage Schedule**
- Contact: Mary Ackleson

WEBINAR AND PODCAST OPPORTUNITIES

Podcasts:

- **What is the Beneficial Electrification League?**
- **How Data Is Revolutionizing the Electric Utility Industry**

Webinars:

- **FY21 – The Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program (DCIP)**
TODAY: April 22, 2–3 p.m.

On Demand:

- **2021 Co-op Economic Outlook**
- **New Funding Available for Co-ops Serving Military Communities**
- **The Power of Partnership: Solar Webinar Series**
- **DOE Hydro - Informational Webinar**
- **Measuring Co-op Response to COVID-19: Key Take-Aways and Action Items**
- **Future Of... Volume 1: EVs, Battery Energy Storage, and Grid Analytics**
- **Future Of... Volume 2: UAS, Analytics, and Distributed Operations**
- **Aligning Compensation with Your Business Strategy**
- **Broadband as an Essential Service**
- **DOE Wind Energy Webinar**
- **RC3 Online Cybersecurity Self-Assessment Program**
- **Impacts of COVID-19 on Renewable Energy and Storage Development**
- **Impacts of Postponing or Canceling Annual Meetings and Director Elections due to COVID-19**
- **Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM)Series: Mitigating Bird Issues**
- **Series: Mitigating Bird Issues**

Resources Regarding the Impact of COVID-19 on Co-ops

NRECA has completed several analyses on the impact of COVID-19 on electric cooperatives, including economic, job sectors, safety, broadband, and other areas. Below are links:

- **2021 U.S. Economic Outlook: A Focus on Rural America**
Contact: Joe Goodenbery

- RE Magazine Article: **The Covid Effect: Contact Injuries**
Contact: Bud Branham
- **Measuring Co-op Response to COVID-19: Key Take-Aways and Action Items**
Contact: Mike Sassman
- **Report: Mid-Year 2020 U.S. Economic Outlook: A Focus on Rural America**
Contact: Joe Goodenbery
- **Paycheck Protection Program: Loan Forgiveness**
Contacts: Allison Hamilton and Joe Goodenbery
- **Financial Impact Report**
Contacts: Russell Tucker and Joe Goodenbery
- **Financial Impact and Pathways to Relief**
Contact: Allison Hamilton
- **At Risk Job Sectors Report**
Contact: Michael Leitman
- **Impacts on Generation and Transmission Cooperatives**
Contacts: Lauren Khair and Michael Leitman
- **How COVID-19 Is Impacting Electricity Industry Sectors**
Contacts: Lauren Khair and Michael Leitman
- **Tools to Help Manage Energy Expenses**
Contact: Brian Sloboda
- **The Criticality of Broadband**
Contact: Paul Breakman
- **Business and Technology Resources to Use Virtually**
- **NRECA COVID-19 Hub**
- **Special Edition: Business and Technology Update**

See past issues of *Business and Technology Update* in our [archive on cooperative.com](#).

Discover the value of NRECA membership. Learn more.

This is a promotion from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
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