

Examining the Value and Opportunities with Distributed Wind

The following are some new resources regarding distributed wind in cooperative service areas.

- **Value Case Report**

Our latest report through NRECA's *Rural Area Distributed Wind Integration Network Development (RADWIND)* project focuses on the value case for distributed wind. The **first report** in this series examined the primary ways that wind energy technologies can be deployed in electric cooperative service territories, and our next report will discuss the business case for distributed wind.

- [Report](#)

- **Case Study**

Our third case study in our RADWIND series highlights Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative in Illinois and profiles their front-of-meter GobNob wind turbine, connected to the co-op's distribution grid.

- [Case Study](#)

- **Distributed Wind Professional Community**

NRECA has recently launched a new professional community for members interested in discussion about distributed wind and how it is progressing in our industry. We welcome all members to join the community and share their thoughts and experiences.

- [Join](#)

- **DOE Wind Integration Workshop**

The U.S. Department of Energy's Wind Energy Technologies Office (WETO) is hosting a webinar workshop to gather input from industry stakeholders, particularly those with wind generation experience, to help shape WETO's near-term research priorities supporting wind integration at both the distribution and transmission levels. NRECA's members (both distribution and G&T) are invited to attend, along with equipment manufacturers, ISOs, utilities, national lab researchers, university researchers, developers, and consultants. The workshop will be held over three days (**June 22, 23, and 30**), but cooperatives are encouraged to participate for all or part of the workshop, as they are able.

- [More Information](#)

- Contact: [Michael Leitman](#)

New NEETRAC Report About Temperature Impact on Conductor Performance

Overhead line designers typically assume the conductor temperature is homogeneous through the thickness of a conductor and use the surface temperature to calculate the sag of a line. If the core temperature of the conductor is significantly hotter than the surface temperature, then this assumption is invalid and the lines will sag more than predicted. Thus, it is important and useful to know if this core-to-surface exists and if it is large enough to affect the sag calculations. In this project, NEETRAC conducted experimental studies to evaluate the effects of a wide number of factors (current, tension, conductor type, aluminum area, percent steel and odd/even layers) on the core-to-surface temperature differences of conductors. This research was a follow-on to an earlier report on an initial small sample size and diversity of constructions.

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

“The Power of Partnership” Webinar on Solar Accessibility Starts June 15

Achieving Cooperative Community Equitable Solar Sources ([ACCESS](#)), the flagship project of NRECA's [Advancing Energy Access for All](#) initiative, aims to improve the affordability, performance, and value of solar technologies on the grid for low- to moderate-income (LMI) consumers. The second part of our "Power of Partnership" webinar series will be on **June 15 and 22**. Join us to hear about the current solar market and how cooperatives are working together to explore innovative financing options to make solar energy accessible to all.

- [Power of Partnership Webinar Series](#)
- [ACCESS Website](#)
- Contacts: [Adaora Ifebigh](#) and [Maria Kanevsky](#)

Transformative Digital Solutions and Operational Technologies to Improve Plant Performance

The rapidly evolving digital and operational technologies available to a range of industries are fundamentally changing and reshaping how companies operate. Our new Surveillance article series summarizes the CEATI Thermal Generation Interest Group's (TGIG) report: *Technologies to Improve Plant Performance: An Industry-Wide Review*. It summarizes some of the relevant transformative digital solutions and operational technologies identified by CEATI as available to the thermal power generation industry and focuses on those that CEATI has determined offer measurable and immediate improvement to plant performance. This article, the third and final in the series, provides information on asset and operation management.

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

New “Emerging Tech” Webinar Series Starts Next Week

As our industry and the needs of our consumers continue to evolve, it is critical that co-ops understand emerging technologies and how they can impact your business — whether it is to help solve a current problem or help prepare for future challenges. Tune in to NRECA's new “Emerging Tech” webinar series to see how these technology advances may offer a helping hand and where the impacts may be felt. Join us on **Thursday, June 17 and Tuesday, June 27 at 2:00–2:50 p.m. ET** for our first two sessions focused on Augmented and Virtual Reality and EV Trends.

- **Registration**
- Contacts: [Robbin Christianson](#) and [Renee Garver](#)

ODIN Provides A Comprehensive Map of Outages for First Responders

The Outage Data Initiative Nationwide (ODIN) was developed by the U.S. Department of Energy and Oak Ridge National Laboratory, with contribution by NRECA, NISC and other vendors. With ODIN, data from utility outage management systems create a comprehensive, standardized digital map of power outages for actionable updates to benefit utilities, first responders, federal agencies, and the public. There is no cost to cooperatives to participate in ODIN, but permission needs to be given to OMS vendors to provide data to ODIN. This new advisory provides further details.

- **Advisory**
- Contact: [Tony Thomas](#)

TechAdvantage® Opportunities

- **TechAdvantage® 2022 Call for Presentations is Now Open**

If you want to share your solutions or insights with CEO's, engineering, operations, energy services, supply management, and IT professionals who serve more than 900 rural electric cooperatives, this is your chance. TechAdvantage® is now seeking proposals for presentations at the TechAdvantage® 2022 Experience, March 6-9, 2022 in Nashville. Go to [Cooperative.com](https://www.cooperative.com) to review the topics of interest and submit your proposal. Submission deadline is June 23, 2021, 5:00 pm EST.

- **Last Chance: 2021 TechAdvantage® Sessions Available On Demand with ENCORE**

If you missed the 2021 TechAdvantage Experience, you can still benefit from the event's 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.

- Contact: [Mary Ackleson](#)

Webinar: Co-op Economic Outlook, July 22

Join NRECA experts on **July 22, 2:00-2:50 p.m. ET** for a discussion of the key economic indicators, insights on economic growth and the latest trends and implications for rural areas and the broader U.S. economy. This free event also offers follow on conversation about the topics covered in the latest **U.S. Rural Economic Outlook** report.

- **Register**
- Contacts: [Joseph Goodenbery](#) and [Robbin Christianson](#)

Registration is Open: 2021 Safety Leadership Summit

Join us in Orlando, **August 9-11** for the **2021 Safety Leadership Summit**- NRECA's premier industry, educational and networking event for electric co-op staffers responsible for safety. This event will be held in person and portions will be available for viewing via livestream as well. In-person capacity is limited, with priority registration being extended to individuals from NRECA member co-ops and statewide associations, so register early.

- **Registration**
- Contact for questions: [Perron Nicholas](#)

WEBINAR AND PODCAST OPPORTUNITIES

Podcasts:

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

Webinars

- **Power of Partnership: Solar Webinar Series – Vol. 2**
June 15: 3-4 p.m.
June 22: 2-3 p.m.
- **Co-op Economic Outlook Series**
July 22: 2-2:50 p.m. ET
October 21: 2-2:50 p.m. ET
January 20: 2-2:50 p.m. ET
- **Emerging Tech Series: Utility Uses for Augmented and Virtual Reality**
June 17: 2-2:50 p.m. ET
- **Emerging Tech Series: EV Trends & Consumer Perspectives**
July 27: 2-2:50 p.m. ET

On Demand:

- **FY21 – The Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program (DCIP)**

- **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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