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NRECA
America's Electric Cooperatives

Business & Technology Update

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TODAY 2 PM ET: Webinar on Data Center Trends and Resources

The rapid growth of data centers is creating both significant opportunities and new challenges for electric cooperatives. Join us **today, November 19 at 2-3 p.m. ET** for a webinar on Data Center Trends and Resources. We will discuss the latest industry developments, emerging opportunities, key considerations, and resources available for co-ops serving data center customers.

Information & Registration

Making a Case for a Data Lakehouse

With the introduction of advanced metering infrastructure and distributed energy resources, electric cooperatives are generating more data than ever before. This data is typically held in disconnected systems, dedicated to individual operational purposes. The arrival of data lakehouse architecture now lets cooperatives gain further

value from their data by integrating the data systems. NRECA's new Surveillance article reviews the case for a data lakehouse and how it can provide benefits not just for today's data, but as the necessary foundation for future AI and advanced analytics.

Surveillance Article

An EV Playbook for Cooperatives

NRECA's new Electric Vehicle (EV) Playbook provides a valuable resource for cooperatives to use in evaluating the impact of EVs on their grids. It presents a scenario-based approach, for strategies that remain flexible under uncertain future conditions while achieving desired objectives. Co-ops are encouraged to review and use the Playbook for examining the impacts of EVs in their service area. Two co-op examples of recent co-op EV evaluations are reviewed in our case studies of Missoula Electric Cooperative's fleet electrification study and Middle Tennessee Electric and Randolph Membership Electric Cooperative EV impacts study. Find these resources on our EV Integration topic webpage on cooperative.com.

EV Playbook

NRECA and LBNL Collaborate to Examine Rural Power Outage Costs

NRECA worked with Lawrence Berkeley National Labs, through a federally funded project, to better understand the cost of power interruptions in rural communities. This first-of-its-kind survey of NRECA members showed how much power outages cost households and businesses, and how that cost changes with a little advance warning. The findings will help update the DOE Interruption Cost Estimator (ICE) Calculator, a free online tool that utilities and regulators use to weigh the benefits of reliability and resilience upgrades. The current calculator was built with data that underrepresented rural communities served by electric cooperatives. This is one way that NRECA is helping to ensure our members and their needs are well represented in important forums.

Read More

A Guide for Electric Distribution Line Guys and Anchors

The Guide for Electric Distribution Line Guys and Anchors was developed by the Transmission & Distribution Engineering Committee (TDEC) Distribution Committee Overhead Work Group. It is a reference guide for engineers responsible for the design and maintenance of overhead distribution facilities and includes the standard RUS distribution guy and anchor assemblies and their permitted loads and holding power along with installation guidelines. The following Advisory provides a summary of the report, and the link to full Guide is also provided below:

Advisory Guide

Case Studies Show Co-ops' Innovation to Secure Member Benefits

- **Cobb EMC's Shared DERMS Implementation**

Distributed energy resource management systems (DERMS) are software platforms layered onto legacy utility systems to monitor, coordinate and deploy DERs. They create significant benefits for co-ops through enhanced flexibility and resilience, upgrade deferral, potential wholesale market participation and expanded member programs. Read our newest case study for insights on how Cobb EMC worked with their G&T provider Georgia System Operations Corporation to pilot a shared, multi-tenant DERMS.

Case Study

• Poudre Valley REA's Battery Energy Storage Demonstration

Poudre Valley Rural Electric Association launched a cooperative-owned residential battery demonstration program to reduce wholesale demand costs through peak demand management, while providing participating members with cooperative funded whole home backup power and enhanced energy resiliency. Learn about how this 10-year demonstration project mitigates the system costs for participants, while gaining peak-demand savings for the broader membership.

Case Study

New Podcast: How Trico is Taking Its AI Program to the Next Level

Co-ops are increasingly looking at whether AI can streamline operations and improve decision-making. Trico Electric Cooperative launched an AI program to help with writing, analysis and research, and the co-op plans to start using cross-system AI agents next year to save time on key tasks. Listen to our latest *Along Those Lines* podcast to learn more from Trico's Brian Heithoff and James Freeman, and hear from NRECA's Venkat Banunarayanan on the AI landscape for co-ops.

Podcast

Resources to Help Co-ops in Serving Large Loads and Data Centers

NRECA continues to add new resources to our Large Loads and Data Centers Learning Hub on cooperative.com, to assist co-ops in meeting the challenges and pursuing opportunities associated with evolving consumer needs, including:

• Large Loads & Data Center Task Force Meeting – Open to All Members

Join us on **Friday, December 4 at 4 p.m. ET** for a special Task Force meeting featuring a panel discussion on distributed computing with speakers from Tesla, SPAN, Speed-to-Power, and Available Infrastructure. All NRECA members are welcome to participate. To attend, please **email our Large Loads and Data Centers Team at:** LargeLoadsandDataCenters@nreca.coop **by November 27th**. Microsoft Teams invitations will be sent on Monday, November 30. Questions can be directed to allison.hamilton@nreca.coop.

• Talking Points for Co-ops on Large Loads and Data Centers

While large load projects may create opportunities for revenue growth, community investment, and improved system utilization, they also introduce significant financial and operational risks. Response to these requests requires effective communication with the developers and the community. NRECA provides suggested Talking

Points for co-ops under the “Community Engagement” key topic of the Large Loads and Data Centers Learning Hub on coop.com.

• Insights on How States are Responding

In the Learning Hub, a new Key Topic for regulatory and legislative content has been added to give insights on how states are responding to these increasing energy demands. Read the latest editorial from NRECA deputy general counsel, Jessica Healy, provided through NRECA’s Legal Reporting Service.

Engagement Opportunities for Cybersecurity Readiness

• A Year-in-Review of All Things Cyber at the Dec. 4 Office Hours

Wrap up the year with the cooperative cyber community at the final Cybersecurity Office Hours on **December 4 at 2 p.m. ET.** Look back at this year’s cybersecurity programs and connect with NRECA cybersecurity experts and peers. Register.

• Webinar: Cybersecurity Resilience Through Inverter-Based Resources – Dec. 9

In 2023, NRECA Research received a $380,000 subgrant from the Department of Energy’s Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (CESER) to advance methods for detecting and recovering from cyberattacks that threaten grid stability. The MAGIC (Mitigation via Analytics for Grid-Inverter Cybersecurity) project uses artificial intelligence and machine learning to recognize when an attack is underway and, once detected, to deploy controllable grid equipment to counter its effects. Join us on **December 9 at 2 p.m. ET** for this exclusive webinar to hear the MAGIC team share their latest progress, demonstrate real-world applications and explain how these tools can be used to protect critical grid assets. Information & Registration

• Call for Presentations: Share Your Cyber Experience

Have an experience, approach or lesson that could help other co-ops strengthen their cybersecurity? Submit a proposal to present at Co-op Cyber Tech 2027. All levels are welcome. Proposals are due December 16.

NRECA Discount for Power Resilience Forum

The Power Resilience Forum, which will be held **February 3-5, 2027 in San Diego, California,** is bringing together utilities, technology companies, policymakers, and investors to discuss solutions for strengthening the power grid against extreme weather and wildfire risks. NRECA is a partner for the event and has secured a 30% discount for our members: **use code “NRECA30” at checkout.**

Information & Registration

Registration Is Open for 2027 NRECA CEO Close-Up

Join fellow CEOs, industry experts and network partners at NRECA CEO Close-Up, **January 10-12 in Marco Island, Florida**. Explore how we can “Power Our Future” through leadership, innovation and collaboration. Dig into the issues shaping co-ops, exchange ideas in facilitated roundtable discussions, connect during afternoon

networking breaks and continue the conversation at evening hospitality suites. Gain practical strategies to lead your co-op and community forward.

Information & Registration

Register for 2027 TechAdvantage

Registration for 2027 TechAdvantage, the premier industry technology event for electric cooperative professionals, is now open. Join us, **February 14-17, 2027 in San Diego, California,** to explore the innovations, technologies and trends powering our future, and visit the more than 400 vendors at the Expo at PowerXchange and TechAdvantage.

Information & Registration

Discover the value of NRECA membership. Learn More.

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