



Business & Technology Update

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NRECA's Cybersecurity Director Recognized by E-ISAC



The nation's grid security watchdog, the Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC), has recognized NRECA Cybersecurity Director Carter Manucy for his leadership on major initiatives that are building electric cooperatives' cyber defenses. On October 24 at GridSecCon in Minneapolis, Manucy received E-ISAC's Electricity Security Service Award, a prestigious recognition for cybersecurity leadership. Read more in this new article, and learn about one of NRECA's newest cybersecurity efforts, Project Guardian, in a related article:

- [Article on E-ISAC Award](#)
- [Project Guardian](#)
- [Cybersecurity Resources Summary](#)
- [Contact: Cybersecurity Team](#)

New Resources

Battery Energy Storage in Rural Utilities

The U.S. electric grid is becoming increasingly reliant on intermittent wind and solar generation, that is not dispatchable and can lead to grid challenges. Adding batteries and other storage technologies can help by

allowing a degree of dispatchability and providing a firm capacity asset for the grid when there is an unexpected drop in generation or a sudden increase in demand. This new report, published through NRECA's Outreach for Advanced Storage Integration and Support (OASIS) project, provides an overview of the applications, technologies, and economic trends of battery energy storage systems (BESS) and presents information about BESS projects deployed by rural electric cooperatives.

- [Report](#)
 - [OASIS Website](#)
 - Contacts: [Steph Joven](#) and [Anantha Narayanan](#)
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Update on IEEE P2030.14 Working Group for Virtual Power Plant Guide

Changes in the industry with increasing distributed energy resources (DERs) and grid complexity are resulting in greater need for flexibility. Virtual Power Plants (VPPs) can help coordinate DERs to provide important grid services. IEEE Standard P2030.14 is a Working Group to develop a Guide to help ensure that VPPs integrate DERs efficiently while maintaining the integrity of the electric grid. This new advisory reviews IEEE P2030.14, advancements made by the Working Group to date, and key considerations for electric cooperatives.

- [Advisory](#)
 - Contact: [Ravindra Singh](#)
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2024 National Directors Survey Results Now Available

Every other year, NRECA conducts the National Directors Survey (NDS)—a comprehensive survey of system policies and practices pertaining to cooperative governance. The NDS provides benchmark data regarding board compensation, along with board practices and policies. The survey results also include a brief section on services provided that are not “traditional” electric transmission, generation or distribution efforts, including broadband. Co-ops who participated in the survey may purchase the results for \$295. Co-ops who did not participate may purchase the results for \$995, which includes an executive summary.

- [Purchase the 2024 National Directors Survey](#)
 - Contact: NDS@nreca.coop
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2024 National Compensation System Available: Same-day Access to Data

One of the most useful salary benchmarking resources in the industry, the National Compensation System (NCS) provides comprehensive salary information compiled from NRECA member electric cooperatives across the country. Accessible anywhere via your secure cooperative.com login, our new point-of-sale feature allows access to the data within minutes! Simply place your order online and pay with a credit card. Order today for \$795.

- [Order the 2024 Distribution NCS](#)
 - [Order the 2024 G&T NCS](#)
 - Contact: [Beth Wray](#)
-

"ICE" Project: Reliability Survey Opportunity

As our nation's dependence on electricity grows, providing reliable, affordable electricity has never been more challenging – and knowing the costs of outages is critical. NRECA is collaborating with Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory to survey co-op members on the costs they incur when the electricity goes out. The results of this survey will help make the case for policies, incentives, investments and technologies to maintain a reliable power supply, and help co-ops evaluate the need for additional grid investments.

Distribution cooperatives in the following states are invited to participate in the survey by contacting NRECA's Director of Consumer Analytics & Market Research, Mike Sassman at Mike.Sassman@NRECA.coop:

Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Upcoming Webinars

TODAY – Cybersecurity Update Webinar Series: November 21

Engage with members of NRECA's cybersecurity team for this free webinar at **2 p.m. ET today, November 21**. Participants will receive an update on cybersecurity resources and programs available to NRECA members, and hear details on several major efforts underway to assist cooperatives in improving their cybersecurity posture.

- [More Information & Registration](#)
- Contact: [Cybersecurity Team](#)

Federal Funding Opportunities Webinar Series: December 10

Join us **December 10 at 2 p.m. ET** as NRECA staff continues to keep you up to date on the latest research and funding programs in which cooperatives may want to participate—including NRECA research initiatives, federal and other FOAs, and new opportunities with the infrastructure law. This session, led by NRECA's Principal Data Scientist, Meredith Miller, will focus on Navigating DOE Infrastructure eXCHANGE.

- [Information and Registration](#)
- Contact: [Meredith Miller](#)

Co-op Economic Outlook Webinar: December 19

Join NRECA economic and investment professionals **December 19, 1-2 p.m. ET**, as they lead the last session of the year highlighting the issues that are shaping the economic health of electric cooperative communities, including GDP trends and sentiment, inflation drivers and trends, labor market conditions and more. Don't miss this popular free series covering the latest trends and implications for rural areas and the broader U.S. economy.

- [More Information and Registration](#)
- Contact: [Michael Leitman](#)

Upcoming Conferences

Registration Opens Today for NRECA TechAdvantage

TechAdvantage, the premier industry technology event for electric co-op professionals, **March 7-12, 2025 in Atlanta, Georgia**. Register today and get inspired by the solutions, strategies and people that are driving our industry forward while exploring the Expo, featuring more than 400 technology vendors. **Registration opens this afternoon, November 21.**

- [More Information & Registration](#)
- Contact: [Alison Kent](#)

Federal Funding Opportunities for Cooperatives

NRECA is committed to helping identify and pursue opportunities for our members through federal funding and partnerships. Here are some that are currently open for co-op participation:

- **Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas (ERA):**
NRECA's consortium proposal for round 2 of DOE's ERA funding is open for co-op participation. The questionnaire will be closed on November 22, 2024.
- **Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP):**
NRECA Research is teaming with Hubbell, Inc. for the final round of DOE's GRIP funding. Co-ops are invited to apply to join our consortium proposal.
- **Industrial Control Systems for Rural Electric Cooperatives (ICS-REC):**
All co-ops with OT/SCADA are invited to join this effort designed to improve and expand on OT Monitoring.
- **Project Goaltender:**
NRECA and DOE's Sandia National Laboratory are working together on advancing cybersecurity regarding DERs and electric vehicle charging systems. We are looking for a couple more co-ops to join the effort.
Contact: membersecurity@nreca.coop

Career and Development Courses for Cooperatives

NRECA offers an extensive variety of courses, online and in-person, for cooperatives' career development. Some upcoming highlights include:

- **744.05 Coaching Your Team Members: Unlocking Potential and Facilitating Growth:** 12/4, 1-4pm ET (last day to register or cancel with refund is Nov. 29)
- **5302.1 Navigating Emotions in the Workplace:** Transforming Your Relationships: 12/4 and 12/5, 1-4 p.m. ET each day
- **718.1 Personal Communication Styles: Who You Are and How You Impact Others.** 1/22 and 23, 1-4 pm ET each day. Registration deadline: Jan. 20.
- **719.1 Building Trust in the Workplace.** 1/29 and 1/30, 1-4 pm ET each day. Registration deadline: Jan. 27.
- **5306.05 Communicating to Influence: Gain Support That Gets Results:** 1/28, 12-4 p.m. ET.

The full schedule is available for the 2025 [Supervisor and Manager Development Program](#) (SMDP) and [Cooperative Career Essentials Program](#) (CCEP) online courses. The schedule also includes the dates for the annual [Cooperative University](#) event, where SMDP and CCEP courses are held in-person.

The [CCEP](#) focuses on the core skills that all employees need, regardless of their title or tenure. The [SMDP](#) focuses on the specific skills needed to supervise and manage others.

- [Full 2025 Course Schedule](#)
- Contact for SMDP: [Diane Rhodes-Michaely](#)
- Contact for CCEP: [Alison Kent](#)

NRECA's Infrastructure Funding Consortia

Members are invited to sign-up to participate in [NRECA's consortia](#) focused on five key areas of co-op interest related to infrastructure funding opportunities. Find out more and sign-up through the links below, and view our past related webinars [On Demand](#):

- [Cooperative Approach to Vehicle Electrification \(CAVE\) Consortium](#)
- [Cyber and Physical Security Consortium](#)
- [Microgrid Consortium](#)
- [Natural Hazards Consortium](#)
- [Smart Grids and Data Consortium](#)

- [Infrastructure Resource Hub](#)
- Contact: [Lauren Khair](#)

On Demand Webinars

Many NRECA webinars are offered On Demand after the live events, to continue as resources to benefit our members. Here is just a sample. Find many more on [cooperative.com](#).

- [Federal Funding Opportunities Webinar Series](#)
- [Economic Outlook Webinar Series](#)
- [Infrastructure Consortia Webinar Series](#)
- [Cybersecurity Update Webinar Series](#)

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

Newsletter provided by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

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