

NRECA Research Project Overview: Rural Electric Workflow Improvements for Rapid Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Deployment (REWIREd)

Project REWIREd is a cooperative agreement between NRECA Research and the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). This agreement provides over \$2 million of federal funding over a three-year period (June 2024 to May 2027). The project aims to reduce the soft costs associated with EVSE deployment by developing standardized procedures, checklists, and templates for applications. The ultimate objective is to enhance processes designed to reduce the soft costs associated with EVSE interconnections.

The **Rural Electric Workflow Improvements for Rapid EVSE Deployment (REWIREd)** project is based on the idea that by streamlining processes and workflows, cooperatives and rural utilities can facilitate faster deployment of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure, support the growth of electric vehicles, and enhance member satisfaction. Importantly, this approach also helps in managing the increased demand on the grid more effectively, ensuring that the integration of electric vehicle service equipment (EVSE) is both reliable and efficient. The project's key objectives and deliverables are detailed below.

Key Objectives

- **Improving EVSE Deployment Efficiency**
Streamline and standardize the processes and workflows associated with EVSE deployment to reduce the time and cost involved, helping to ensure a quicker rollout of EV charging infrastructure in rural areas.
- **Supporting Grid Management and Reliability**
Develop tools and resources to help cooperatives manage the increased demand on the grid effectively, helping to ensure reliable and efficient integration of EVSE.
- **Enhancing Member Satisfaction**
Facilitate faster and more efficient deployment of EVSE, to improve member satisfaction by providing reliable and accessible EV charging options.
- **Bolstering Community Engagement and Workforce Development**
Foster community engagement and collaboration in workforce development, enhancing the knowledge and skills of cooperative personnel and local contractors.

- **Creating a Cooperative Advisory Board (CAB)**

Establish and engage a CAB with representatives from a diverse range of cooperatives across all ten NRECA regions. The CAB will provide valuable data and insights into interconnection processes, contributing to the project's direction.

Interested in Joining the REWIRED CAB?

[APPLY HERE](#)

Deadline is August 30, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. ET.

Participation is open to voting members of NRECA.

Project Deliverables

- **Streamline Utility Workflows for EV Interconnection**

To expedite the EV interconnection process, NRECA Research will develop a guidebook to guide standardized application procedures, simplify paperwork, and help ensure consistent requirements across a utility's service territory.

- **Assess the Impact of Future EV Growth on Distribution Transformer Loads**

To inform cooperatives if additional charging loads can be accommodated by existing infrastructure, NRECA Research will develop an online dashboard. This dashboard will incorporate the following features:

- Data Integration and Growth Modeling
- Load Modeling
- Visualization and Reporting

Overarching Efforts

[NRECA Research](#)

NRECA Research, a not-for-profit entity, was established in 2019 to complement the resources and services provided by NRECA to address the needs of electric cooperatives. Through NRECA Research, our members can leverage extensive internal expertise and established industry partnerships to develop and demonstrate new technical capabilities that directly address the challenges and opportunities of the future electric grid.

Additional Resources

- [REWIRED webpage](#)
- [CAB Solicitation and Application Form](#)
- [EV Topic Webpage on cooperative.com](#)
- [\(CAVE\) Consortium](#): Cooperatives are encouraged to join this network of electric cooperatives that have implemented or are planning to implement various electric transportation programs.

Contact for Questions

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