

## Invitation for Electric Cooperatives: Join NRECA Research's Federal Funding Application for Cybersecurity Training and Support of the Cooperative Cybersecurity Community

### Key Highlights

- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has slated \$250 million for the advancement of cybersecurity of the electricity grid through the Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity (RMUC) Grant and Technical Assistance Program.
- NRECA Research has applied for funding through RMUC in two distinct Topics of the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), one focused on the NRECA Research Threat Analysis Center community and the other on training opportunities for cooperative staff.
- Co-op members are invited and encouraged to sign-up to participate in both efforts.
- **The DOE program only permits NRECA Research to use the funding for co-ops participating in our RMUC Applications. If a co-op does not sign-up, we will not be able to include them in the funded efforts.**
- **Sign-up deadline is May 3, 2024. Please be sure to sign-up today.**

### Background

NRECA Research is excited to announce a potential opportunity for co-ops to enhance their cybersecurity posture through the RMUC (Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance) Program, within the Department of Energy (DOE). NRECA Research has submitted two concept papers under the RMUC ACT (Advanced Cybersecurity Technology) FOA (Funding Opportunity Announcement) and is asking our members to consider joining us for the full application phase:

- **TICCC-TAC (FOA Topic 2)**

NRECA Research intends to promote and scale the NRECA Threat Analysis Center (TAC) to create an active community of cooperative cybersecurity professionals and a peer-to-peer ecosystem of mutual support.

- **SPARK** (FOA Topic 3)

NRECA Research will support rural utilities' efforts to increase the scope and quality of appropriate and affordable security training by providing participating cooperatives with high-quality training on various cybersecurity topics.

Cooperatives are **strongly encouraged** to sign-up for both TICCC-TAC and SPARK applications since this funding opportunity only permits NRECA Research to use awarded funds to support utilities that are included in the project applications. **If a co-op does not sign-up to participate, we will not be able to include them in the funded efforts.**

TICCC-TAC will have a cooperative cost share requirement between \$50-\$300/year for 4 years. SPARK has NO cooperative cost share requirement.

NRECA Research is seeking participation now to ensure as many utilities as possible are included if DOE accepts NRECA's concept papers and encourages us to proceed with the full application. Use the link below to learn more and sign-up!

The sign-up process includes:

- A short questionnaire to capture required application information, and
- A Letter of Commitment for each proposal.

The text for the Letter of Commitment will be provided through the sign-up process. Utilities can simply copy the provided text onto utility letterhead and have it signed by an Authorized Representative for your utility. These signed letters will then be uploaded through the questionnaire page.

**All interested utilities must complete this process no later than May 3, 2024.**

**Visit**

**<https://www.cooperative.com/act-foa>**

**to sign up today!**

### **Related Information**

- [RMUC Proposals Website on Cooperative.com](#)
- Article: [DOE Seeks Co-op Input on Rollout of \\$250M Utility Cybersecurity Program](#)
- FOA: <https://www.energy.gov/ceser/articles/notice-intent-rural-and-municipal-utility-cybersecurity-program-advanced>

### **Contact for Questions**

NRECA Research team: [researchfunding@nreca.coop](mailto:researchfunding@nreca.coop)