

# Helping America's Electric Cooperatives Close the Digital Divide

NRECA Broadband is a dedicated set of services leveraging NRECA's expertise, influence and reputation to help cooperatives that are committed to bringing reliable, high-speed internet to their communities. Participation in the initiative provides exclusive access to broadband-specific advocacy support, education, resources and guidance.

NRECA Broadband helps co-ops navigate the unique political and regulatory risks and business issues that come as part of the broadband industry, including:

- A new set of federal and state regulations for broadband that are very different than in the energy sector.
- Regulatory reporting and compliance requirements related to federal funding.
- Tax implications specific to broadband business and corporate structure.

Additionally, co-ops must compete with huge broadband providers such as Comcast and Co-ops must compete with huge broadband providers such as Comcast and AT&T that spend as much as \$40 million a year on broadband-related advocacy efforts. With NRECA's unmatched reputation and regulatory knowledge, electric co-ops as a group can better compete with these large organizations.

### What participating co-op leaders say about NRECA Broadband:

- "NRECA... They're well-respected in D.C., and this will be the best value you can get for your money to advocate for you on telecommunications issues."
  - Michael Callahan, Executive VP/CEO, Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi
- "I have been impressed with the professionalism, knowledge and skill set of the NRECA Broadband staff."
  - Daniel Webster, CEO, Northeast Oklahoma Electric Co-op
- "Amazing work overall. Thoughtful, well-informed and crisp lineup. Effortless run of show. Nothing flashy, just high impact content with exceptional people in NRECA and policy guests."
  - NRECA Broadband Leadership Summit, 2024 Attendee

# NRECA Broadband Provides Access to Exclusive, Tailored Benefits

### Advocacy. Providing a Strong, Unified Voice in Washington on Broadband Issues

Regulatory and legislative policy advocacy is not one-size-fits-all. Investing in NRECA Broadband provides specialized staff providing direct input and feedback to federal policymakers and agencies. Electric co-ops are competing with formidable organizations with deep pockets and need someone in Washington speaking for their positions and needs.

### **Education.** NRECA Broadband Leadership Summit and Dedicated Learning Throughout the Year

The annual Broadband Leadership Summit brings together leaders from co-ops in broadband and representatives from key federal agencies such as FCC, NTIA, USDA and Treasury, as well as senior congressional staff. Additionally, NRECA offers relevant broadband content and networking opportunities at PowerXchange, CEO Close-Up, Connect and other NRECA events.

## Collaboration. Monthly Leadership Check-Ins, Regulatory Roundtables, Advisory Groups

NRECA hosts monthly virtual discussions with NRECA senior leaders and participants to check in on the broadband issues that matter most to you. Regulatory Roundtables bring you subject matter experts to discuss regulatory requirements and obligations. Member Advisory Groups ensure that co-ops help steer the NRECA Broadband initiative in the areas of policy, education and operations.

### **Guidance and Resources. Prepared by Experts**

NRECA issues exclusive guidance on federal communications law compliance, tax issues related to provision of broadband and FEMA public assistance eligibility, among others. NRECA provides policy fact sheets on numerous broadband advocacy priorities to inform co-ops' conversations with lawmakers. Participants also receive a complimentary consultation with telecommunications regulatory consultants Keller & Heckman.

#### Communication. News, Insights and Engagement

NRECA Broadband shares news and insights through the weekly Broadband Insider newsletter and NRECA Broadband Daily News Clips. Additionally, participating organizations have access to the NRECA Broadband Participants professional community on cooperative.com.

### Partners. Organizations Committed to Assisting the Co-op Network

Through NRECA's Associate Member and Service Member Partner programs, NRECA Broadband participants gain access to expertise, industry knowledge and benefits.

Don't miss the opportunity to access these benefits for your broadband organization while strengthening the collective voice of cooperative broadband.

Follow us on at LinkedIn.com/showcase/ nreca-broadband/

Our Annual Report shows the impact and value that NRECA Broadband delivers.

