

Regions 8&10 Meeting

Kansas City, MO | October 21 - 23, 2024

Schedule

Subject to change. All times are local to the event location.

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MON. 10/21

8:00am - 4:00pm

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

988.1 The Board's Role in Safety

Registration Required

Establishing a culture of safety is the first responsibility of an electric cooperative board. Together with the CEO, the board must continually and carefully provide oversight of safety performance to establish and maintain a culture of safety. Many boards are challenged to find the balance between positively influencing safety performance and becoming entrenched in cooperative operations. This course is designed to help distribution cooperative boards find that balance and to fulfil their safety oversight responsibilities.

Fee: \$715

8:00am - 4:00pm

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

960.1 Value of the Generation, Transmission, and Distribution Relationship

Registration Required

This course is designed for all electric cooperative directors and CEOs. It places particular emphasis on directors and CEOs selected by their boards to serve on the G&Ts board. Given the complexity of today's electric industry, all directors and CEOs should have a holistic understanding of the challenges and risks faced by G&Ts in their mission to provide their member systems with reliable and economical power supply.

Fee: \$715

8:00am - 4:00pm

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

909.1 Effective Governance in the Face of Crisis

Registration Required

This course is designed to help electric cooperative directors to recognize the landscape of a public relations crisis. Participants will learn to evaluate crisis management plans, oversee communication strategies and navigate legal compliance. Interactive exercises will bolster skills in stakeholder engagement, with a focus on developing resilience and strategic responses for long-term crisis management. This training is tailored to enhance the directors' ability to maintain cooperative integrity and member trust during challenging times.

Fee: \$715

8:00am - 4:00pm

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

975.1 Capital Credits Issues and Decisions

Registration Required

Adopting and implementing a capital credits policy are key responsibilities of a co-ops board of directors and management. As the elected representatives of the members, directors must understand the cooperatives capital credits policy and be able to explain to members who have questions why it was adopted and how.

Fee: \$715

1:00pm - 5:00pm

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

CEO Workshop: How to Make Optimal Investments for a Reliable and Sustainable Electric Grid

Venkat Banunarayanan, Vice President, Integrated Grid at Business & Technology Strategies, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

Registration Required - CEOs

As market forces, technologies, policies, interdependencies and consumer actions change the electric industry landscape, the need to assess the current and future evolution of the grid and prepare for the impact on co-ops has never been greater. The utility or grid operator of the future will likely optimize distributed generation and load resources, in addition to traditional large-scale generation, to operate the grid, while still accountable to provide safe, reliable, resilient, secure and affordable electricity.

A comprehensive scenario development, along with considering risk mitigation options, and implementation of an integrated distributed system for planning and operations are increasingly viewed as necessary ingredients for the sustainable existence of the future electric grid. This presents a powerful opportunity for co-ops to successfully continue to be stewards of their communities.

This highly interactive session will consist of a facilitated discussion of the challenges and opportunities afforded by the evolution of the grid, the process by which future industry scenarios and associated risk mitigation options can be developed, and their impact on planned current and future investments. Attendees will be able to share their co-ops opportunities, challenges, and actions taken, and be able to learn from and interact with other co-op CEOs on their views, plans, and activities to address the grid evolution. At the end of this workshop, participants will be able to understand, given the current energy industry environment, how to develop scenarios that assist in understanding risks and opportunities at their co-op, the value of integrated planning and operations, and how to determine optimal investments for the benefit of their communities.

Discussion Topics:

- Changes in the energy industry
 - Infrastructure interdependencies
 - Impact on electric utilities
 - Impact on co-ops

- Current goals, metrics and planning process at your co-ops to determine capital and operating investments
- How to determine future goals
 - Developing plausible and possible scenarios

- Creating risk mitigation options
- Future utility planning and operations
 - More vertical coordination
 - Broader uncertainties and forecasting needs
 - Dealing with a smaller "sphere of control"

4:00pm - 5:30pm

NETWORKING

NISC Update and Reception

5:00pm - 6:30pm

NETWORKING

America's Electric Cooperatives PAC Donor Appreciation Reception

All active Americas Electric Cooperatives PAC members are invited to an exclusive Thank You reception to celebrate your commitment to political engagement. Join us for an evening of food, beverages, door prizes, recognition and socializing with fellow PAC members. We appreciate your continued support.

*Note: This event is exclusive for **active members of Americas Electric Cooperatives PAC** (anyone who has contributed to Americas Electric Cooperatives PAC in 2023 or 2024). If you are unsure of your Americas Electric Cooperatives PAC membership status, please contact Amy Lewis at amy.lewis@nreca.coop. If you are **not** an Americas Electric Cooperatives PAC member but would like to be, please make your contribution today at www.cooperative.com/pacdonation or contact amy.lewis@nreca.coop.*

*Contributions to the Americas Electric Cooperatives PAC are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes. Contributions to Americas Electric Cooperatives PAC are voluntary and will be used for political purposes. You have the right to refuse to contribute without reprisal. Federal law prohibits contributions from foreign nationals who lack permanent resident status. Any contribution guidelines presented are merely suggestions. You are free to contribute more or less than the suggested amounts, or not at all. NRECA will not favor or disadvantage anyone by reason of the amount contributed or a decision not to contribute. *Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200.*

TUE. 10/22

7:30am - 8:30am

NETWORKING

CEO Breakfast

By Invitation Only

Sponsored by



National Rural Utilities
Cooperative Finance Corporation

7:30am - 9:00am

NETWORKING

Coffee Service

8:30am - 8:50am

MEMBER RESOLUTIONS

Region 10 Nominating Committee Meeting

8:30am - 8:50am

MEMBER RESOLUTIONS

Region 8 Nominating Committee Meeting

9:00am - 10:30am

GENERAL SESSION

Opening General Session

Ken Macken, Director of Safety Programs, NRECA

Jim Matheson, CEO, NRECA

Michael McCrea, Director of US Accounts, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)

Call to Order

Welcome

Safety Message from NRECA's Director of Safety Programs

CEO Address

Powering the Future: Regional Insights on Future Load Growth and Energy Resource Mix Scenarios

As an independent and scientific voice in the electric power industry, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) will share insights on what future load growth may look like in your regional area due to electrification and other factors such as data center growth and carbon capture technology. This session will also help you understand scenarios of the future energy mix required to meet load projects and provide an overview of the technology advances driving the energy transition forward.

Proposed Resolutions Briefing

This session will help prepare you to participate in the afternoons Regional Resolutions Committee meeting by providing a briefing on the 2024 Compendium of Proposed Resolutions.

10:30am - 10:40am

NETWORKING

Networking Break

Sponsored by



INSPIRING A CULTURE OF SAFETY FOR 65 YEARS

10:40am - 11:20am

BREAKOUT

Breakout: Cybersecurity Update Project Guardian

Learn about the growing cybersecurity threats facing electric cooperatives and how NRECA Research's cybersecurity program and strategy is designed to help. Discuss the current and future programs that NRECA Research has implemented or will implement to provide statewide, G&T, distribution and service cooperatives with resources to assess and improve their cybersecurity posture. Topics include the Cyber Goals Program, Co-Op Cyber Tech, Project Guardian-617A, ICS-REC and more.

10:40am - 11:20am

BREAKOUT

Breakout: Being a Good Practitioner of Politics

11:30am - 12:00pm

NETWORKING

CFC District Meeting

12:00pm - 1:15pm

NETWORKING

Regionals Luncheon with Address by Andrew Don

Andrew Don, CEO, National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC)

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National Rural Utilities
Cooperative Finance Corporation

1:30pm - 3:00pm

GENERAL SESSION

General Session 2

Tony Anderson, President, NRECA Board of Directors

Phil Irwin, President & CEO, Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange

Ingrid Kessler, Secretary-Treasurer, Secretary, NRECA Board of Directors, Lane Electric Cooperative, Inc.

President's Address

Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange Update

Recent Industry Breakthroughs and Their Impact on Your Cooperative

Hear how cooperatives in your region utilized a recent development and how their co-op was impacted. Walk away with examples of victories from electric co-ops that can help position other cooperatives for future success.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

3:00pm - 3:15pm

NETWORKING

Networking Break

3:15pm - 4:15pm

MEMBER RESOLUTIONS

Regions 8 & 10 Resolutions Committee Meeting

For NRECA Voting Members Only

The Regional Resolutions Committee meeting is your opportunity to learn more about the Compendium of Proposed Resolutions a compilation of the proposed resolutions forwarded by the National Resolutions Committee and any additional resolutions or amendments from prior Regional Meetings. Audience members are encouraged to ask the committee questions, and voting members may offer new resolutions sponsored by their cooperative's board or statewide association for the committee to consider.

5:00pm - 6:30pm

NETWORKING

Welcome Reception

Sponsored by



WED. 10/23

7:30am - 9:00am

NETWORKING

Continental Breakfast

8:30am - 9:15am

BREAKOUT

Region 10 Resource Roundup

Stop by to discover a wealth of knowledge and NRECA resources to help you on your journey. Whether you're new to your role or a seasoned veteran of the electric cooperative world, we have something for you!

- Discuss topics you're facing at your cooperative with subject matter experts.
- Explore a variety of materials and association resources, including connections to valuable programs and services.
- Discover opportunities and support systems that fit your needs.
- Networking opportunities: Meet experts and connect with other directors and CEOs who share your co-op's goals.

Our knowledgeable staff will be on hand to answer your questions and guide you to the resources that are right for you.

8:30am - 9:15am

MEMBER RESOLUTIONS

Region 8 Business Meeting

For NRECA Voting Members Only

Business Meeting Agenda:

- Call to Order
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Standing Rules
- Approval of Minutes of Prior Year's Business Meeting
- Report of Nominating Committee
- Election of Region Members to NRECA Standing Committees Consideration of Proposed Resolutions

9:15am - 10:00am

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GENERAL SESSION

Closing General Session

Pat Mangan, Senior Director, Governance, NRECA

Nick Pascale, Deputy General Counsel, NRECA

Strategic Integration: Managing & Overseeing AI's Role in Cybersecurity Governance

This session empowers directors and CEOs with knowledge to help guide your electric cooperative towards a future powered by Artificial Intelligence (AI). We'll delve into the critical concerns for AI governance, including crafting clear policies and guidelines for responsible AI use. Discover new resources like NRECA's sample policy and tools to create your own comprehensive framework.

The session dives into cybersecurity threats specific to AI systems and equips you with possible strategies to help safeguard your cooperative's assets. We'll then shift focus to how a board and CEO can fulfill their legal responsibilities surrounding AI and cybersecurity. Gain insights into the evolving legal landscape and understand your role in helping ensure robust cybersecurity practices. We'll discuss some potential consequences of cybersecurity breaches in AI systems and their impact on your cooperative and its members. We'll also explore how AI can be harnessed to optimize grid operations, enhance predictive maintenance, and improve member services, and could ultimately drive sustainable growth for your cooperative. In addition, we'll offer practical considerations for AI use and collaboration with industry partners to foster a thriving innovation ecosystem.

Governance Talk LIVE! CEO-Board Partnerships for Strategic Success in Electric Cooperatives

Historic levels of CEO retirements have fostered a new generation of electric cooperative leadership. Whether your CEO is new or seasoned, ensuring their success is a top priority for all boards of directors. The board and CEO must build and maintain an effective working relationship, but the structure of this relationship is inherently complex. The CEO is hired by and reports to the board, but as the chief executive officer of the corporation they have a status that is unlike that of any other employee. Both the CEO and the board must continually recognize the need to monitor the relationship and should treat its maintenance as a joint, active process rather than a passive result. Leave this session with practical strategies for strengthening the Board-CEO relationship and ensuring the success of your CEO.

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