

# E2C Peer-Learning Cohort Application Questions

## *Leveraging Data for Modern Utility Grid Planning*

**Description:** Utilities that collect, curate, and integrate high-quality data into their planning decisions are better equipped to provide reliable and flexible electric power as demand continues to evolve. In the age of artificial intelligence (AI), effective data management practices can unlock new opportunities for faster and more insightful grid analysis and planning. This cohort will teach utility grid planners and data managers about key data sources, storage and management best practices, and the industry standards and open-source tools that enable data integration across the utility to improve planning, flexibility, and service delivery. Participants will learn to identify necessary data for each stage of utility planning, where those data reside within the organization, and how data can flow across teams and systems to increase their value and effectiveness.

Submit your application by 11:59 p.m. ET on Thursday, April 30, 2026, at <https://www.nlr.gov/e2c/cohorts>

### **General Applicant Information**

1. Organization name
2. Location (city/town/county & state)

### **Primary Cohort Representative**

3. First name
4. Last name
5. Email address
6. Position/Job title
7. Organization name
8. Organization headquarters address
9. Organization type
  - a. Municipal Electric Utility
  - b. Electric Utility Cooperative
  - c. Other
10. Number of residents in your organization's service territory:
  - a. Less than 10,000 residents
  - b. 10,000 to 50,000 residents
  - c. 50,000 to 100,000 residents
  - d. 100,000 to 500,000 residents
  - e. 500,000 to 1,000,000 residents
  - f. Greater than 1,000,000 residents
11. Is this primary cohort representative willing and able to commit approximately 4 hours per month to cohort participation and supporting activities?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No

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12. Does this primary cohort representative have sufficient internal authority and influence to inform decision-making and implement learnings and suggestions from the cohort? Please explain. (Estimated 25–50-word count)
13. Would you like to provide an additional contact at this time? This may be either a cohort-specific subject matter lead or a secondary administrative contact.
  - a. Yes, I will provide an additional representative or administrative contact
  - b. No, the primary representative will be available for communication

### **Secondary Representative or Administrative Contact (optional)**

14. Cohort Representative or Administrative Contact?
  - a. Cohort Representative
  - b. Administrative Contact
15. First name
16. Last name
17. Email address
18. Position/Job title
19. Organization name
20. Organization headquarters address
21. Organization type
  - a. Municipal Electric Utility
  - b. Electric Utility Cooperative
  - c. Other

### **Cohort-Specific Application Questions**

22. Please describe your responsibilities within your organization: engineering (at what system level(s)—distribution, transmission, generation?); operations; or other. (Estimated 25–50-word count)
23. Please describe any internal data access or data communication challenges your organization is currently facing. (Estimated 25–75-word count)
24. Please describe any external data access or technology and software communication challenges your organization is currently facing. (Estimated 25–75-word count)
25. Please describe any data usage challenges your organization is currently facing. (Estimated 25-75-word count)
26. What modeling software or systems do you currently use for grid modeling, grid planning, or other related utility functions?
27. Please describe any challenges your organization is currently facing in using data for grid modeling. Which type(s) of data are associated with these challenges—grid (load, voltage, etc.); asset (GIS, equipment attribute, etc.); customer (class, usage information, technology adoption, etc.); or other? (Estimated 50–100-word count)
28. Please describe any near-term grid planning processes or time-bound decisions that could be informed by your participation in this cohort. (Estimated 25–50-word count)
29. How would your participation in this peer-learning cohort benefit your organization's approach to data management and utilization? (Estimated 50–75-word count)

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30. *Optional:* Please provide any additional relevant information that reviewers should know.

**Closing Questions**

31. Where did you learn about E2C peer-learning cohorts? Please be specific.

32. What other energy topics would you be interested in seeing as future cohorts?  
Submitted topics may be considered for future E2C peer-learning cohorts.

Subscribe to the E2C mailing list to get updates about future opportunities at <https://www.nlr.gov/state-local-tribal/e2c-newsletter>.