##### October 16, 2018

**TO:** All Interested Parties

**FROM:** Elizabeth Mallett, NAESB Deputy Director

**RE: Green Button Update**

Green Button

On October 10, 2018, the NAESB Retail Markets Quadrant (RMQ) Executive Committee reviewed and remanded the recommendation containing revisions to NAESB REQ.21, the Energy Services Provider Interface Model Business Practices (ESPI) back to the ESPI Task Force. Due to a substantial set of comments submitted by the Green Button Alliance which identified aspects of the recommendation that needed to be further developed, the Executive Committee determined that the ESPI Task Force should continue to develop aspects of the recommendation. Additionally, once completed, the Executive Committee agreed to shorten the upcoming formal industry comment period for the recommendation from 30 days to 14 days.

Developed in response to Standards Request R13001, the recommendation was completed by the ESPI Task Force and unanimously approved at the beginning of August. During the thirty-day industry comment period that concluded on September 4, no comments were submitted; however, the comments from the Green Button alliance, mentioned above, were submitted as late comments before the October Executive Committee meeting. As you may remember, ESPI serves as the foundation for the Green Button. By providing an industry-standard XML format for energy usage information and a data exchange protocol, ESPI allows for the automatic exchange of a retail customer’s energy usage information between their designated data custodian, such as a utility, and an authorized third-party service provider.

Over the past year, the Green Button Alliance (GBA) and NAESB have continued to harmonize efforts regarding the Green Button. The GBA began in February of 2015 in coordination with the Commerce Department’s National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Department of Energy to advance the development of the energy usage data standards. Last year, NAESB and the GBA executed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to define the relationship the two organizations will share concerning ESPI and the Green Button Certified Download My Data, Connect My Data, and other future GBA certification programs. Per the MOU, NAESB has attached an open source Apache 2.0 license to both the NAESB ESPI XML Schema and the NAESB ESPI Retail Customer XML Schema contained in the ESPI Model Business Practices. Additionally, NAESB has agreed to host the XML files on its website. In exchange for these actions on NAESB’s part, the MOU commits the GBA to utilize its resources to update the ESPI Model Business Practices and require valid, legal access to ESPI as a condition of certification for any current or future Green Button certification programs.

As a background, in 2011, the Chief Technology Officer of the United States challenged utilities across the country to provide their customers with easy and secure access to their energy usage data via a “Green Button” on their websites. Launched in 2012, the Green Button Initiative is a response to that White House call to action that has led to over 150 utilities and service providers committing to providing more than 60 million U.S. households (altogether 100 million people) with access to their own Green Button energy data.