##### November 17, 2021

**TO:** All Interested Parties

**FROM:** Caroline Trum, NAESB Deputy Director

**RE: NERC Coordination Activities**

During the October 5 meeting of the WEQ Executive Committee, the committee adopted three recommendations in support of coordination with NERC. The first recommendation addressed Standards Request R21002 which was submitted by NERC and proposed NAESB consider modifications to the defined term System Operating Limit. This defined term is used in both the NERC Reliability Standards and the WEQ Business Practice Standards, and, where possible NAESB seeks to align the definitions of shared terms to reduce potential confusion, promote clarity, and support consistency. The recommendation developed by the WEQ SRS proposed modifications to the definition consistent with the changes proposed by NERC for inclusion in the NERC Glossary. The revised definition was ratified by WEQ membership on November 4 and will be included in the next version of the WEQ publication.

The second recommendation adopted by the WEQ Executive Committee, developed by the WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee, proposed revisions to WEQ-005. The modifications are non-substantive in nature and ensure consistency in the use of defined terms, abbreviations and acronyms as well as align terminology used within the standards with that used in the NERC Dynamic Transfer Reference Document Version 4. The revisions are intended to promote consistency between the WEQ Business Practice Standards and NERC documentation. The revised standards were also ratified by WEQ membership on November 4, and will be included in the next version of the WEQ publication.

Additionally, during the meeting, the WEQ Executive Committee approved a new version of the *NAESB Accreditation Requirements for Authorized Certification Authorities* (ACAs). The recommendation, developed by the WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee, proposed new requirements be added to address NAESB ACAs issuing code signing certificates. The new requirements are intended to be supportive of industry practices that are increasingly relying on code signing certificates to verify the authenticity of software, applications, and other executables as well as requirements in NERC CIP-010 Cyber Security – Configuration Change Management and Vulnerability Assessment Reliability Standards which require verification of the identity of a software source. The new version of the *NAESB Accreditation Requirements for ACAs* became effective upon approval by the WEQ Executive Committee on October 5.

Additionally, NAESB and NERC staffs continue to engage in various coordination discussions to ensure the organizations remain in lock-step regarding areas of overlap between commercial and reliability issues for the wholesale electric industry. Recent topics of discussion have included the development of the 2022 WEQ Annual Plan and the NERC 2022 – 2024 Reliability Standards Development Plan, cybersecurity activities, the WEQ-023 Modeling Business Practice Standards, and the WEQ BPS standard development efforts related to energy storage and distributed energy resources.