STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT

**eTariff (WEQ and WGQ):** The initial meeting was held on February 1, 2006 at the FERC, opened by Chairman Kelliher. Proposals from INGAA, EEI, AOPL and Texas Intrastate Association were given, along with a review by FERC staff of requirements to be met for an e-Tariff program. Since that initial meeting, several others have been held and it appears that a consensus in building to support a web portal option for electronically filing tariffs. The metadata requirements are nearing completion and the method for submitting the filing (using XML schemas or open architecture database files) is now under consideration. NAESB standards should address three areas – (1) the metadata to accompany the electronic filing, the definitions of the metadata, and the mode of filing. It is expected that once we prepare our findings and standards for the FERC, a new NOPR will be issued. On July 27, the group agreed via straw poll to forward the metadata to the technical group to prepare an XML schema, and agreed that the option A web portal (submittal of metadata data and documents through a web portal) was the approach to follow. The next e-Tariff meeting is scheduled for October 11-12 in Houston. [eTariff Update]

**Order 890 and OATT Reform (WEQ):** A working session was held to review the OATT NOPR and prepare analysis for the basis for NAESB comments to the FERC on August 7, 2006. The comments were filed on August 7, 2006. Similarly, NAESB provided comments to the FERC regarding the October 12 Technical Conference on OATT Reform on November 12, 2007. The Commission issued the final rule, Order 890, on February 16, 2007. NAESB filed a status report on its plans on June 13, 2007, which is updated as each subcommittee meets to perform its assigned tasks. The task list has been modified to show dependencies with NERC for ATC related items as is available on the [NAESB web site]. [Order 890 Update]

**Wholesale Electric Seams Issues:** The NAESB office distributed several letters on behalf of the chair of the Seams Subcommittee, Mr. Schwermann. The letters were distributed via e-mail to: APPA, WSPP, WECC (the Seams Issues Subcommittee and the Information Scheduling and Accounting Subcommittee), EEI, and IRC. The included several inquiries regarding some of the Seams issues and whether the various organizations could provide additional information on the resolution of those issues and/or were willing to participate in an effort to address the issues with the NAESB Seams Subcommittee. Because of the survey, it was determined that there was no need for national standards at this time. At the recent August WEQ EC meeting, the seams catalog was reviewed for Order 890 tasks, which were determined to be represented in the Order 890 work plan. [Catalog]

**DSM-EE Activities:** The first meeting of the group was held on April 11 – at which time the scope of the first phase was identified to focus on measurement and verification standards as related to energy quantity savings and peak load quantity reductions. Since that meeting, two others have been held to create a task list and identify volunteers and resource documents and refine the task lists and set deliverable dates. On July 26, further discussion was held on the tasks and work papers submitted. Comments have been requested by September 14 to review possible standards language. The next meeting is scheduled for September 25 hosted by ERCOT in Austin. [DSM Update]
### Gas Quality:
The WGQ Executive Committee has acted on Request No. R06008 - gas quality standard changes. The recommendation for this request was remanded to the WGQ Business Practices Subcommittee during the December 7, 2007 conference call for further development. A revised recommendation has been processed by the WGQ BPS during December 2006 and January-February 2007. At the May WGQ EC meeting, the EC adopted 3 of the standards proposed. The remaining standards did meet the 67% threshold for EC votes, but they did not meet the 40% segment threshold for one segment – the pipelines, and as such failed. The ratification of the three standards was completed on August 2. [Gas Quality]

### Gas-Electric Interdependency:
The FERC issued FERC Order No. 698, which adopted the gas-electric communication standards and highlighted areas for possible standards development. The WGQ EC met on August 3 to discuss tasks and assignments related to the order, and assigned the effort to the WGQ Business Practices Subcommittee. The Board added this development effort to the WGQ Annual Plan on June 28. The WGQ BPS met on August 30-31 to begin the standards development efforts, which can be monitored via the NAESB web site. The next meeting is scheduled for September 18-19 in Richmond. [Order 698]

### Annual Planning 2008:
The 2008 annual planning process will begin shortly with a request for comments sent to members and interested industry participants. The request for comments will focus on standards development activities that would be appropriate for each quadrant to undertake in 2008. For each quadrant the following considerations should be made – (1) the plan may already have several items that are carryovers from 2007 to 2008, (2) the plan priorities may need to reflect deadlines and expectations of regulatory groups, and (3) the plan priorities for 2008 may not be the same as the plan priorities for 2007.

For the WEQ plan, it is unlikely that there will be many additions, as the group is focused on completion of Order 890 tasks, DSM-EE efforts and other development activities to complement the development of reliability standards by NERC. As such, a 2008 draft plan taking into account these considerations will be sent out for comment. [Annual Plans 2008]