FERC Order Instituting Proceeding to Develop Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms: On April 16, 2015 in Docket No. AD15-11-000, the Order Instituting Proceeding to Develop Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms was issued to initiate discussion on the possible replacement of the current software used to electronically submit a number of Commission forms, Visual FoxPro, to a new data format. This action is being considered as updates to Visual FoxPro are no longer supported by Microsoft Corporation and other files and reports to the Commission, including electronic tariff filings, are employing Extensible Mark-Up Language (XML) file format. The Order specifically asked NAESB to consider supporting the effort, and on June 1, 2015, the NAESB Board of Directors held a working session to discuss two proposed modifications to the 2015 WGQ and WEQ Annual Plans that will be voted on via a notational ballot after the meeting. One of the two suggested revisions proposed the inclusion of an item for the consideration of standards development for the electronic forms.

To initiate the discussion, on May 1, 2015, the FERC issued a Notice of Technical Conference with NAESB in Docket No. AD15-11-000 scheduled for June 10, 2015. To support the dialogue, the Commission noted that, to date, the use of Visual FoxPro has been eliminated for the Electric Quarterly Report (EQR or FERC-920) filings and that consideration to transitioning Forms 1, 1-F, 2, 2-A, 3-Q electric, 3-Q gas, 6, 6-Q, FERC-60, and FERC-714 from Visual FoxPro to a new format may be beneficial. During the June 10, 2015 technical conference, FERC, NAESB, and interested members of the industry will discuss the proposal and coordination efforts in effectuating the transition to a new electronic submission format for the forms. The Commission will accept comments following the conference until the June 30, 2015 comment deadline.

For more information, please go to 2015 WGQ Annual Plan, 2015 WEQ Annual Plan, June 1, 2015 Board Working Session Announcement and Agenda, April 16, 2015 - FERC Order Instituting Proceeding to Develop Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms (Docket No. AD15-11-000) and May 1, 2015 - FERC Notice of Technical Conference (June 10, 2015) with NAESB on Order Instituting Proceeding to Develop Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms (Docket No. AD15-11-000).

NAESB and NERC Continuing Coordination: To ensure that both organizations remain in lock step on several ongoing industry projects, NAESB staff and the leadership of the WEQ continue to hold monthly calls with NERC staff and leadership. During these calls, the organizations review the status of the many coordinated projects underway, including the transition of the NERC MOD standards to NAESB, responding to the March 19, 2015 FERC Order calling for coordination regarding the elimination of the Purchase-Selling Entity (PSE), Interchange Authority (IA), and Load-Serving Entity (LSE) functional categories from the NERC Functional Model, discussions concerning the future of the NERC Resource and Demand Balancing (BAL) standards, and additional organizational issues.

Currently, the work of the WEQ BPS related to the MOD transition of standards is scheduled to be complete by the end of the second quarter of 2015 with any resulting standards submitted to the Commission during the third quarter of 2015. As reported in the last bulletin, NAESB is developing standards that support the NERC MOD requirements proposed for retirement that have been identified by NERC and confirmed by NAESB as commercially relevant. NAESB is committed to working with the Commission and NERC to ensure a seamless implementation of the MOD standards for the industry.

On March 19, 2015, FERC Order on Electric Reliability Organization Risk Based Registration Initiative and Requiring Compliance Filing was issued in Docket No. RR15-4-000 and requested that NERC coordinate with NAESB regarding revisions to the NERC Rules of Procedure that will implement NERC’s Risk-Based Registration initiative. This project will retire the PSE and IA functional registration categories from the NERC Functional Model and may affect certain aspects of the NAESB Business Practice Standards. Further, NERC is intending to retire the LSE functional registration category from its Compliance Registry, which may impact NAESB Standards WEQ-004 and WEQ-008. In Paragraph 42 of the order, the Commission stated “NERC should address in [a future] compliance filing its coordination with NAESB to ensure the timely-transfer of commercial-related practices affected by the proposed elimination of the [LSE] function.”

Moving forward, NAESB will continue to monitor the treatment of the NERC BAL-004 Time Error
**NAESB and NERC Continuing Coordination (continued):**
Correction standards as part of 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 1.f – Develop, modify or delete business practices standards to support NERC activities related to NERC Time Error Correction (BAL-004). A NERC Five-Year Periodic Review Team has considered the BAL-004 reliability standards for retirement and proposed that Manual Time Error Correction be eliminated as a continent-wide NERC requirement. The potential retirement may have an impact on corresponding NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards, including WEQ-006 Manual Time Error Correction.


**FERC Order No. 809 and Gas-Electric Harmonization:** In FERC Order No. 809, Final Rule Coordinating of the Scheduling Processes of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines and Public Utilities issued in Docket No. RM14-2-000 on April 16, 2015, the Commission adopted the modifications to support the timeliness, evening, and intraday nomination schedule proposed by NAESB and currently included in the WGQ Version 3.0 standards. Additionally, the Commission supported a 9:00 am Central Clock Time (CCT) start to the gas day and has asked NAESB to incorporate consistent modifications into the standards. In response to the request, NAESB leadership took action on April 22, 2015, by approving a modification to the 2015 WGQ Annual Plan that moved the annual plan item addressing the final order from provisional to active status and assigning the item to the WGQ Executive Committee. The board also determined that initiating the NAESB Minor Correction Process to address the modifications to the final actions that support the corresponding annual plan items, WGQ 2014 Annual Plan Items 11.c (Parts 1 and 2) and MC14018, would be the most efficient method to timely respond to the request of the FERC.

The resulting minor correction, MC15009, was approved during an April 30, 2015 WGQ Executive Committee conference call and initiated a public comment period that concluded on May 14, 2015. No comments were received and the minor corrections became effective on June 1, 2015. As the Commission did not propose action on the NAESB WGQ Business Practice Standards Version 3.0 when acting on the gas-electric harmonization standards, a set of subsequent minor corrections will be filed with the Commission in July to ensure consistency with Version 2.0 of the WGQ Standards and to update Version 3.0 of the WGQ Standards should the Commission take action on the latest version. A NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization Webcast Course was held on June 10th and 16th, 2015 to provide an overview of the standards developed in response to the NOPR and adopted in the final order, along with the minor corrections that will be filed in July.

Additionally, through FERC Order No. 809, the Commission requested that the gas and electric industries, through NAESB, consider the use of electronic scheduling for the nomination and confirmation processes to improve its speed. As noted above, a board working session was held on June 1, 2015 to discuss the addition of an item on the 2015 WEQ and WQG Annual Plans to support the request. A notational ballot to consider the item will be sent out shortly.


**Retail Markets Quadrant (Segment):**
- Department of General Services (Retail Gas Market Interests)
- Xtensible Solutions LLC (Retail Electric Service Providers/Suppliers)
- Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Retail Electric End Users/Public Agencies)

**Wholesale Electric Quadrant (Segment):**
- Indianapolis Power and Light Company (Transmission)
- Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (End Users)
WEQ Open Access Same-time Information Systems (OASIS) Subcommittee: Since March, the WEQ OASIS Subcommittee has voted out a whopping nine recommendations to address 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Items. On June 1, 2015, the NAESB membership ratified four of these recommendations for 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Items 7.a-7.d, developed in response to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) Order No. 676-H. Of particular note was 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 7.b, adopted to address Paragraph 49 of the Order, in which the Commission requested “that the NAESB standards conform to the Commission’s Dynegy policy, through revisions to “WEQ-001-9.5, WEQ-001-10.5, and any other standards affected by these standards …we request that NAESB make this project a priority.” The subcommittee met ten times between October 22, 2014 and March 12, 2015 to vote out the recommendation for a thirty day industry comment period. The Dynegy policy addressed the treatment and timing aspects related to the redirect of capacity on parent reservations on the OASIS scheduling systems. As consensus could not be reached on the treatment of conditional redirects, the subcommittee recommendation only addresses unconditional redirects. To continue the standards development effort, during the April 28, 2015 WEQ Executive Committee meeting, a WEQ Executive Committee task force was created to address redirects from conditional reservations. The first meeting of the task force is scheduled to take place later this month.

Also ratified on June 1, 2015, were recommendations for 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 7.a – modifications to NAESB standards WEQ-001-14.1.3 and WEQ-001-15.1.2 to provide for a one-day requirement for posting Available Transfer Capability (ATC) narratives, 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 7.c – modifications to NAESB standard WEQ-001-106.2.5 to clarify when Transmission Providers may refuse a request for terminating secondary network service based on the availability of capacity, and 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 7.d – modifications to the NAESB Service Across Multiple Transmission Systems (SAMTS) Business Practice Standards to permit a customer with preempted transmission capacity from a reservation associated with a coordinated group to alter the capacity of coordinate requests in the coordinated group. All three recommendations were approved by the WEQ Executive Committee on April 28, 2015.

In addition to the work on FERC Order No. 676-H, the subcommittee voted out five recommendations during its April 14-16, 2015 meeting. While the recommendation for 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 6.a was developed in response to FERC Order No. 676-E, the other recommendations were completed as part of regular maintenance to the existing body of WEQ standards. All five recommendations will be considered during the August 18, 2015 WEQ Executive Committee meeting in Dallas, Texas.

The subcommittee is now refocusing its efforts on Preemption and Competition, 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Items 2.a.i and 5.c, with the development of a recommendation for long-term preemption and competition expected in June. That recommendation will be followed by a second recommendation addressing short-term competition and completing the annual plan items in 2016. The next WEQ OASIS Subcommittee face-to-face meeting will be hosted by MISO in Carmel, IN on June 16-18, 2015. During the call the participants will continue to discuss and possibly vote on the draft recommendation for long-term competition.

RMQ Open Field Message Bus (OpenFMB) Task Force: Chaired by Stuart Laval and Joe Zhou, the OpenFMB Task Force held its kick off meeting on April 17, 2015. The new task force was created by the RMQ Executive Committee in response to a Standards Request submitted last November from Duke Energy. The request, R14008, asks that NAESB develop OpenFMB Model Business Practices for interoperable data exchange between distributed power systems devices on the electric grid’s field area networks.

As a standard for power systems field devices to leverage a non-proprietary and standards-based reference architecture platform, OpenFMB may consist of internet protocol (IP) networking, Internet of Things (IoT) messaging protocols, and standardized common semantic models, to enable the secure, reliable, and scalable communications and peer-to-peer information exchange between devices on the electric grid.

During three meetings held throughout the month of May, the task force reviewed use case scenarios and developed an outline for the draft model business practices. The upcoming call on June 12, 2015 will focus on the development of a draft recommendation. A face-to-face meeting of the OpenFMB Task Force will be hosted by Duke Energy in Charlotte, NC on July 10, 2015.

Parallel Flow Visualization-Transmission Loading Relief (PFV-TLR): On February 24, 2015, the WEQ Executive Committee voted to approve a recommendation for the proposed PFV business practice standards which contain modifications to the current NAESB WEQ-008 TLR – Eastern Interconnection standards support the submission of near real-time data to the IDC tool. During the full staffing period, the approved recommendation will be held in abeyance while the IDC Association conducts a field test on the standards. This will allow for any needed modifications to the standards to be made prior to, during, or following the field test. At the conclusion of the field test, the full-staffing period, and ratification by the NAESB membership, the standards will be provided to the Commission. NAESB filed a status report on March 25, 2015, in Docket No. EL14-82-000, to inform the Commission of the actions taken by the WEQ Executive Committee, to provide an overview of the business practice standards, and to explain the next steps for the PFV project.

Upon the approval of the recommendation, the Interchange Distribution Calculator (IDC) Association began test preparations in anticipation of the PFV field trial. The test preparation period is expected to last between twelve to eighteen months. During this anticipation of the PFV field trial. The test preparation period is

The WEQ BPS began to develop the PFV recommendation in 2010 with the objective of refining congestion management in the Eastern Interconnection through the increase of the Reliability Coordinator’s real-time visibility of the source and magnitude of parallel flows within the bulk electric system.

For more information, please go to 2015 WEQ Annual Plan, 2014 WEQ Annual Plan, March 25, 2015 NAESB PFV Report to FERC, January 28, 2013 PFV Status Report to FERC, July 11, 2014 PFV Status Report to FERC, WEQ BPS Page, WEQ Executive Committee Task Force Page, Recommendation approved by the NAESB WEQ Executive Committee on February 24, 2015 to initiate the full staffing process (Redline), Executive Committee Task Force PFV Request for Comments, Energy Comments, Joint IESO, ISO-NE, MISO, NYISO, PJM, and SPP Comments, MISO Comments, WEQ SRS Comments, NYISO Comments, Southern Company Comments, WEQ Executive Committee PFV Task Force Late Comments, IESO Late Comments, October 21, WEQ Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, WEQ BPS PFV Recommendation and WEQ BPS PFV Request for Formal Comments.

Cybersecurity: The WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee (CSS) and the WEQ Coordinate Interchange Scheduling Subcommittee (CISS) held a joint meeting on April 29, 2015 to discuss a no action recommendation for 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.b (Review WEQ standards for impact of XML vulnerability exploits and make modifications as needed to standards and functional specifications). The WEQ CSS will meet again in June to review and possibly vote out the recommendation to be reviewed at the August WEQ Executive Committee meeting hosted by Oncor in Dallas, Texas.

Prior to this action, on April 9, 2015, the WEQ CSS considered 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Items 4.a.i (Review annually at a minimum, the accreditation requirements for Authorized Certification Authorities to determine if any changes are needed to meet market conditions) and 4.c (Evaluate and modify standards as needed to support and/or complement the current version of the NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Standards and any other activities of the FERC related to cybersecurity). The subcommittee participants determined that no modifications are needed for 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.a.i at this time, but postponed the development of a subcommittee recommendation until market conditions are reassessed later this year. Additionally, for 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.c, the subcommittee determined that modifications are not needed to the NAESB standards to support Version 5 of the NERC CIP Standards. The subcommittee will reconvene later in the year to discuss the need for standard modifications to support FERC cybersecurity activities.

Concerning the retail markets, on February 25, 2015 the RMQ Executive Committee approved a no action recommendation for 2014 RMQ Annual Plan Items 5.a and 5.b – Investigate and determine if changes to standards are needed to support adequate session encryption (SSL/TLS issues). In December, the RMQ IR TEIS voted out the recommendation, concluding that technological changes and security threats have not yet warranted modifications to the standards.

Demand-Side Management and Energy Efficiency (DSM-EE) Update: Since the beginning of the year, NAESB has continued to coordinate with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) regarding potential energy efficiency standards development in areas identified in the Standardization Roadmap gap analysis drafted by the ANSI Energy Efficiency Standardization Coordination Collaborative (EESCC). As a result of the Standardization Roadmap, NAESB was asked by ANSI to consider standards development in eighteen areas identified by the EESCC. After a thorough review by NAESB leadership, NAESB noted three areas in which potential standards development efforts may be pursued. These areas include the establishment of a standardized format and content guide for technical reference manuals, standardized terms and definitions for reporting energy efficiency programs and project data, and standardized reporting characteristics of audit and implementation data. This information was reviewed by the NAESB Managing Committee and the Board of Directors and communicated to ANSI in a letter sent on December 18, 2014.

NAESB staff met with ANSI leadership through several conference calls, as late as June, to discuss other standards developments efforts underway by other organizations, including the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership (NEEP). During the calls, it was noted that there are already several existing state-level and regional technical reference manuals and documents touching on audit and implementation data. Additionally, the DoE State and Local Energy Efficiency (SEE) Action Task Force is considering the standardization of terms and definitions for reporting energy efficiency programs. NAESB, ANSI, and NEEP plan to hold additional conference calls to continue to discuss and monitor ongoing industry activities.

In a separate effort, the DSM-EE Specifications Task Force met earlier this year and determined that the potential development of a RMQ Demand Response (DR) and Energy Efficiency (EE) Measurement and Verification (M&V) specification should be postponed due to the pending litigation surrounding FERC Order No. 745. Last year, the participants determined that an accompanying DR specification for the WEQ would also be premature. In order to allow the task force to revisit the request, 2015 WEQ Provisional Annual Plan Item 5 was placed on the WEQ Annual Plan. This effort began in response to a request from Dominion Voltage Inc. to consider the development of a specification to support a certification program for the DSM-EE WEQ and RMQ standards. Part of this effort includes the completed specification to support the certification of EE M&V products and services which is now available to the industry.


RMQ Net Metering Model Business Practices Development: In order to support the communications of retail net metering information in a variety of jurisdictions, the recommendation for 2015 RMQ Annual Plan Item 4 will propose to modify existing and add new retail model business practices to several RMQ books. To continue this effort, the RMQ BPS held a face-to-face meeting on April 27-28, 2015 to develop recommendations to modify Book 10 – Customer Enrollment, Drop, and Account Information, and Book 11 – Customer Enrollment, Drop and Account Information Change Using a Registration Agent. The recommendation for Book 10 is scheduled for completion within the second quarter of 2015, closely followed by the recommendation for Book 11 in the third quarter. The RMQ BPS recommendations for Book 3 – Billing and Payments and Book 8 – Retail Customer Information were ratified by the NAESB membership on April 2, 2015 and November 20, 2015 respectively. The next RMQ BPS conference call will be held on June 17, 2015.

As part of the full staffing process, once the RMQ BPS recommendations are complete, the RMQ Information Requirements and Technical Electronic Implementation Subcommittee (IR TEIS) will begin to develop modifications to the Data Dictionaries and the technical implementation under 2015 RMQ Annual Plan Item No. 3.b and 3.c to support the Books 10 and 11. In the meantime, the RMQ IR TEIS will hold a conference call on June 24, 2015 to continue the development of technical implementation for Book 3 – Billing and Payments and Book 8 – Retail Customer Information. The subcommittee expects to complete the recommendation for Book 8 in the second quarter of 2015, followed by a recommendation addressing Book 3 in the second quarter of 2015.

In light of the divergent implementation of net metering arrangements and the variety of policies set by state commissions, the retail net metering annual plan items were given the limited scope of supporting billing and payment in competitive markets.

For more information, please go to 2015 RMQ Annual Plan, 2014 RMQ Annual Plan, RMQ BPS Page, RMQ Glossary Subcommittee Page, RMQ IR TEIS Page, Final Action for Book 3 (MBPs), Final Action for Book 3 (Process Flows), Final Action for Book 8, and June 4, 2015 Joint RMQ BPS and Data Privacy Task Force Agenda.

NAESB Primers and Training Courses:
Please monitor the NAESB Primers and Training Courses web page for additional information and scheduling of upcoming courses.
**Data Privacy Update:** On June 4, 2015, the RMQ Data Privacy Task Force held a joint conference call with the RMQ BPS to address Standards Request R15001. The request asks NAESB to revise Model Business Practice Standard RXQ.6.10 – Retail Customer Authorization for Release of Retail Customer-Specific Data, to include a footnote informing the reader that where the end date of the authorization form is left blank, the end date will default to an indefinite release of customer data to an authorized third party or as directed by the Applicable Regulatory Authority. Additionally, the request suggests the addition of a Customer Revocation Section to permit a customer to cancel authorization at any time. As the call resulted in several modifications to RXQ.6.10, a second joint conference call with webcasting will be held on June 19, 2015 to discuss and possibly vote out a recommendation.

Additionally, the NAESB Third Party Data Privacy Practices Certification Program to support the NAESB REQ.22 Data Privacy Model Business Practices is now available to the retail markets. Last year, the Board Certification Program Committee developed the program and the Data Privacy Task Force, chaired by Christine Wright of the Texas PUC, developed an accompanying specification supporting the program. The NAESB Certification Program utilizes a self-certification format where an officer or principle of the company seeking certification has reviewed the appropriate Certification Check List, certifies under oath that the software product or software solution meets the minimum requirements, and certifies that his or her answers are accurate and truthful. Please contact the NAESB office for more information on attaining any NAESB certifications.


**Smart Grid Update:** On June 1, 2015, the NAESB membership ratified a joint recommendation for 2015 RMQ Annual Plan Items 6.a-6.c. Developed and unanimously adopted by the Energy Services Provider Interface (ESPI) Task Force, the RMQ BPS, the RMQ IR TEIS and the RMQ Glossary Subcommittee – the annual plan item directed the subcommittees to review the REQ.21 ESPI Model Business Practices and the RMQ Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) standards to determine whether modifications were needed to ensure consistency, whether references to REQ.21 should be included in other existing RMQ books, and whether language was needed to differentiate between ANSI X12 EDI and REQ.21. The recommendation was approved by the RMQ Executive Committee on April 29, 2015. The successful collaboration of the RMQ subcommittees on this annual plan item resulted in modifications to Retail Book 8 – Retail Customer Information and Retail Book 5 – Quadrant-Specific Electronic Delivery Mechanism.

By introducing a process and interface that allows for the exchange of a retail customer’s energy usage information between their designated data custodian and an authorized third party service provider, the ESPI standard has garnered considerable attention from the industry. The DoE endorsed the NAESB ESPI standard as part of its Green Button initiative, which allows customers to securely download their own detailed energy usage with a simple click of a literal "Green Button" on electric utilities’ websites. To date, the adoption of the Green Button standard has increased since the last NAESB newsletter from 48 to 50 utilities and electricity suppliers. Also, from 48 million to over 60 million household and business customers that have access to their Green Button energy data.


**Update on the Electric Industry Registry (EIR) and e-Tagging Specification:** NAESB is pleased to announce that the NAESB EIR will accept the registration of pseudo-ties beginning on June 9, 2015. The registry system administrator, OATI, will update its technical documentation to provide more information to registry users on the pseudo-tie data object and its entry, modifications, and approval.

Established in 2012, the NAESB EIR is a tool that serves as a central repository of information required for transactions that support a wide array of business functions for scheduling transmission service on the wholesale power grid. The NAESB EIR Enhancement Request ER13001 was submitted by the NERC Coordinate Interchange Standards Drafting Team and corresponds to NERC Reliability Standard INT-004-3, Requirement R3, which requires all existing and future pseudo-ties to be registered in the EIR. The effective date for NERC Reliability Standard INT-004-3.1 Requirement R3 is the first calendar day, two calendar quarters after the EIR can accept the registration of pseudo-ties.

Additionally, the e-Tag Specification Version 1.8.2 was implemented on March 31, 2015. This extended implementation period allowed tagging vendors time to perform modifications to downstream systems utilizing registry data in order to ensure a successful and comprehensive implementation. Following the approval of Version 1.8.2 by the WEQ Executive Committee in February 2014, the interoperability testing for the specification was completed on November 13, 2014. The e-Tag Specification Version 1.8.2 supports the implementation of the NAESB Business Practice Standards related to Network Integration Transmission Service (NITS) on OASIS while also accommodating regional business practices of the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC), and allowing for multiple reliability profiles on an electronic tag.
Update on the Electric Industry Registry (EIR) and e-Tagging Specification (continued): This year, the WEQ CISS will determine the modifications needed to WEQ-004 Coordinate Interchange Business Practice Standards, the EIR Business Practice Standards, the e-Tag Specification, and the e-Tag Schema to recognize the Market Operator entity code role within the EIR. Currently within the registry, the Market Operator role is an attribute of Balancing Authorities. An informal comment period on a Market Operator white paper concluded on April 27, 2015. The next WEQ CISS conference calls will be held on June 12, 2015 and June 24, 2015.


NERC MOD Request Efforts: To initiate discussion surrounding Transmission Providers calculations and posting of ATC, FERC staff hosted an ATC workshop on April 21, 2015. The workshop and the NAESB MOD standards development effort were prompted by the February 10, 2014 filing from NERC to FERC that proposed changes to its ATC-related reliability standards and a parallel standards request submitted to the NAESB office from NERC on February 7, 2014. That standards development request, R14002, requested that NAESB consider the development of standards that support the commercial aspects in the NERC MOD A standards.

In the WEQ Executive Committee MOD Standard Scoping Task Force recommendation adopted by the WEQ Executive Committee back in August, the task force requested that the WEQ Executive Committee direct the WEQ BPS to consider the forty-one requirements identified by the task force for inclusion as a new suite of standards in the NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards. The WEQ BPS is currently on track to complete a recommendation for the project by the second quarter of 2015 and recently held an informal comment period that closed on March 16, 2015 for a draft recommendation. Fourteen comments were submitted during the informal comment period. The next WEQ BPS conference call will be held on June 22, 2015.


NAESB Board Meeting and Board Committees Update: The NAESB Board of Directors held a working session on June 1, 2015 to discuss potential modifications to the 2015 WQQ and WEQ Annual Plans. First, the board discussed a proposal to create an annual plan item addressing the electronic filing protocols for FERC forms in response to the aforementioned April 16, 2015 order. The second proposed revision would create an annual plan item for the consideration of standards development for electronic scheduling, as requested by FERC in Order No. 809. A notational ballot will be circulated to allow the board to determine the direction it will take.

During its May 15, 2015 meeting, the Board Revenue Committee voted to move forward the recommendations of the Membership Stabilization Task Force regarding the clarification of membership for Board consideration in September. The committee began discussing new ways to publish the NAESB wholesale standards that would better support new requirements resulting from a recent Federal Register order and reviewed the current publication dates of the NAESB standards. Additionally, the group reviewed the communication activities within NAESB, the Membership Status Report, the Revenue Report, and the Membership Prospect List.

The Board Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Task Force also held a meeting on May 15, 2015. The conference call focused on the activities of the joint Membership Stabilization Task Force and reviewed issues presented during the April 9, 2015 Board of Directors meeting.

Also on May 15, 2015, the Parliamentary Committee held a planning session to discuss the proper use of the term “majority” as used in a resolution proposing Bylaw modifications to support the removal of Directors in the event of misfeasance, malfeasance and/or nonfeasance. During the April 9, 2015 board meeting, the Parliamentary Committee recommended that the proposed bylaw and NAESB Operating Practices amendments be modified to require majority support of the entire board as a whole, rather than majority support of each quadrant as previously presented. The recommendation was not supported by the board and the committee has been asked to reconsider the modifications and propose an alternative during the next board meeting.

In order to ensure that the request of the board is addressed efficiently and that all alternatives are explored thoroughly, the Parliamentary Committee members determined that they would develop proposals specific to the removal of directors and submit them to
**NAESB Board Meeting and Board Committees Update (continued):** the NAESB office for posting to the committee website before the next conference call on June 11, 2015. During that call, all proposals will be presented and discussed.

Currently, the term “Majority” is defined in NAESB Bylaw 1.1(k) to mean a simple majority of each of the applicable Quadrants for the purposes of voting; however, the term “majority” is not capitalized in all instances in the NAESB governing documents.


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### Filings:

On May 1, 2015, the FERC issued a Notice of Technical Conference with NAESB in Docket No. AD15-11-000. The technical conference will be held on June 10, 2015 and focus on an April order, *Order Instituting Proceeding to Develop Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms*. That order, issued in the same docket, provided notice to the industry that the Commission intends to replace its current software, Visual FoxPro, with XML data format for many of the forms submitted by the industry, as Visual FoxPro is no longer supported by Microsoft Corporation.

FERC Order No. 809 *Final Rule Coordinating of the Scheduling Processes of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines and Public Utilities* was issued in Docket No. RM14-2-000 on April 16, 2015. In the final order, the Commission supported the timely, evening, and intraday nomination schedule proposed by NAESB and currently included in the WGO Version 3.0 Standards. The Commission supported a 9:00 am CCT start to the gas day and has asked NAESB to incorporate consistent modifications into the standards. Additionally, the Commission requested that NAESB consider a standards development effort for electronic scheduling.

In order to inform the Commission of the significant strides made within the PFV project, NAESB filed a status report to FERC in Docket No. EL14-82-000 on March 25, 2015. The filing highlights that the NAESB WEQ Executive Committee approved a recommendation for PFV-related modifications to the NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards and voted to initiate the full-staffing process. At the conclusion of the full-staffing period and after ratification by NAESB membership, the standards will be provided to the Commission.


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### NAESB Webcast Courses:

In a move to provide information regarding recent industry efforts in gas-electric coordination and to support the industry use of the NAESB WGQ contracts, NAESB will host several interactive webcast courses this year. The *NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization Webcast Course* will take place on June 16, 2015. Through FERC Order No. 809, issued on April 16, 2015 (Docket No. RM14-2-000), the Commission took action on certain proposed NAESB WGQ standards developed in response to the March 20, 2014 FERC NOPR *Coordination of the Scheduling Processes of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines and Public Utilities*. The *NAESB Gas-Electric Coordination Webcast Course* is designed to provide an overview of the standards developed in response to the NOPR and adopted in the final order, and will highlight the steps NAESB intends to take to support the Commission action.

In order to enhance the utilization of WGQ contracts, on June 10, 2015 and again on December 3, 2015, NAESB will host the *Understanding the NAESB WGQ Contracts Webcast Course*. The webcast course will address recent changes to the NAESB WGQ contracts and provide the participants with a detailed understanding of the components of NAESB contracts.

**NAESB Bulletin**

### NAESB Quadrant/Segment Membership Analysis:

**Wholesale Gas Quadrant** 123 Members  
End Users Segment 17  
Distributors Segment 19  
Pipelines Segment 43  
Producers Segment 14  
Services Segment 30  

**Retail Markets Quadrant** 45 Members  
Retail Electric End Users/Public Agencies Segment 16  
Retail Gas Market Interests Segment 13  
Retail Electric Utilities Segment 7  
Retail Electric Service Providers/ Suppliers Segment 9  

**Wholesale Electric Quadrant** 146 Members  
End Users Segment 12  
Distributors Segment 21  
Transmission Segment 42  
Generation Segment 25  
Marketers/Brokers Segment 26  
Non Specified 1  
Independent Grid Operators/Planners Segment 10  
Technology & Services Segment 9  

**Total Membership** 314 Members

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**Copyright/NAESB Standards Access:** As everyone should be aware, NAESB copyrights its work products – a practice used by most standards organizations. The copyrights are considered a subset of intellectual property law, and NAESB retains the rights to publication, reproduction, display and distribution. NAESB members may obtain materials free of charge as part of their benefits, but these benefits do not extend to their agents, affiliates or subsidiaries without prior approval and waivers from the NAESB office. Damages for copyright infringement can be significant, including penalties of $100,000+, injunction, impounding of materials, seizure of property, and award of punitive damages. At the same time, NAESB is very liberal in its policies towards sharing information, and has granted waivers to regulators and educational institutions depending on the intended use. There is also a process by which anyone can request a three-day waiver to review the work products, as they consider whether they should purchase them. Waivers for longer periods can also be granted depending on use. NAESB’s control of copyrighted material provides a small revenue stream which offsets some of its standards development expenses and thus those of its members in the creation of the work products. More importantly, as entities must come to NAESB for its standards material, it assures that they will have access to the most current version.

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For more information, please go to [NAESB Current Committee Activities](https://www.naesb.org) or contact Denise Rager (drager@naesb.org) for additional information.