FERC Order No. 809 and Gas-Electric Coordination: FERC Order No. 587-W, adopting Version 3.0 of the NAESB WQG Business Practice Standards, was issued on October 16, 2015 in Docket Nos. RM96-1-038 and RM14-2-003. The updated business practice standards contain and supplement the revisions to the NAESB scheduling standards accepted by the Commission in FERC Order No. 809. On July 16, 2015, FERC issued a NOPR in Docket No. RM96-1-038 regarding the Version 3.0 standards and the minor corrections submitted to support the requests of the Commission related to gas-electric market coordination via FERC Order No. 809. The WQG Version 3.0 Standards were filed with the FERC on November 14, 2014 and the supportive minor corrections were filed on July 6, 2015.

On August 4, 2015, NAESB submitted a status report in Docket No. RM14-2-000 to summarize the recent action by NAESB to support the April 16, 2015 FERC Order No. 809, Coordination of the Scheduling Processes of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines and Public Utilities (Docket No. RM14-2-000). The report detailed the two errata filings submitted to the FERC on July 6, 2015 containing minor corrections to Versions 2.0 and 3.0 of the NAESB WQG Business Practice Standards, and also provided a summary of the activities the organization has taken to respond to the Commission’s request in Paragraph 107 of FERC Order No. 809. That paragraph asked that the gas and electric industry work through NAESB to explore the potential of electronic scheduling for the nomination and confirmation processes to improve its speed.

On June 1, 2015, a board working session was held to discuss the addition of an item on the 2015 WEQ and WGQ Annual Plans to support the request. Subsequently, the board, via notational ballot, created 2015 WGQ Annual Plan Items 3.b and 3.c and 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Items 9.a and 9.b. Moreover, the board supported the GEH Forum taking action in 2016 to create a standards development timeline and framework addressing electronic scheduling, which, once completed, would be forwarded to the NAESB Board of Directors for approval.

On September 17, 2015, the FERC issued an Order on Rehearing for the April 16, 2015 FERC Order No. 809. Of specific interest to NAESB, the Commission stated that it is reasonable for the industry “to begin considering [the electronic scheduling] standards and to submit standards or a report on the development of such standards by October 17, 2016.”

In response, the NAESB Managing Committee recently sought input via email on whether modifications should be made to the annual plan to initiate the work of the Gas-Electric Forum now, or if the original 2016 date is adequate to respond to the Commission. A single-topic board meeting to discuss the October 17, 2016 date has been scheduled for November 5, 2015 at 11:00 AM Central. The discussion on timing and other aspects of the project will be carried over to the December 8, 2015 board meeting.

As you know, FERC Order No. 809 not only adopted the modifications to support the timely, evening, and intraday nomination schedule proposed by NAESB, but also supported a 9:00 am CCT start to the gas day. The Order changes the nationwide timely nomination cycle from 11:30 a.m. CCT to 1:00 p.m. CCT and revises the intraday nomination timeline to include an additional intraday scheduling opportunity during the gas day.

STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT

FERC Order No. 809 and Gas-Electric Coordination: (continued)


Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms (eForms): In the April 16, 2015 Order Instituting Proceeding to Develop Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms (Docket No. AD15-11-000), the FERC explained that 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 XML may be beneficial to the industry. Additionally, FERC cited the previous success of the NAESB standards development process for the electronic tariff (eTariff) efforts and asked that NAESB consider supporting the eForms effort in order to facilitate stakeholder development.

In response to the Order, the newly created joint WEQ/WGQ FERC Forms Subcommittee, chaired by Leigh Spangler and Dick Brooks, held a kick-off conference call on August 13, 2015. Working under 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 8 and 2015 WGQ Annual Plan Item 4, the subcommittee is preparing to initiate standards development that will support the submission of FERC forms in XML format. During the call, the participants reviewed a work paper and noted that the subcommittee may need to consider the development of data transport standards, a data dictionary, as well as business practice standards along with the XML schemas for the forms. It was acknowledged that the effort will likely be similar to the NAESB e-Tariff work.

On the heels of the kick off call, the WEQ/WGQ FERC Forms Subcommittee held a seven day informal comment period to gauge industry thoughts and comments regarding a draft work paper containing preliminary topics to be addressed. Three comments were submitted from ISO NE, Avista Corporation, and Links Technology. During the September 1, 2015 conference call, the participants reviewed the submitted comments. Although coordination between NAESB and FERC staff has been ongoing, an anticipated completion date for this project has yet to be determined.

As the forms marked for potential transition by the FERC include those submitted by jurisdictional oil pipe line companies, NAESB is coordinating with the Association of Oil Pipe Lines to ensure that any NAESB recommended action that would address wholesale gas and wholesale electric market forms is consistent with any solutions proposed to address oil pipe line specific forms.


Data Privacy Update: A recommendation in response to a request to modify the NAESB Model Business Practice RXQ.6.10 – Retail Customer Authorization for Release of Retail Customer-Specific Data was ratified by NAESB membership on September 25, 2015. The authorization form is utilized to obtain retail customer’s authorization for the release of their information to a third party. Submitted by Christopher Villarreal on behalf of the California Public Utilities Commission, the Standards Request R15001 asked to modify the authorization form to include a footnote notifying the reader that where the end date is left blank in the form, the date will default to an indefinite release of customer data to an authorized third party or Applicable Regulatory Authority. Furthermore, the request proposed the addition of a customer revocation section to permit a customer to cancel the authorization at any time. On June 19, 2015, the Data Privacy Task Force and the Retail Business Practices Subcommittee held a joint conference call to vote out the recommendation for a thirty day industry comment period. No comments were received during the comment period which began July 9, 2015 and concluded on August 7, 2015. The RMQ Executive Committee approved the recommendation during its August 19, 2015 meeting.

For more information, please go to 2015 RMQ Annual Plan, RMQ BPS Page, R15001, June 19, 2015 Joint Data Privacy Task Force and RMQ BPS Minutes, Request for Comments, Recommendation to Support R15001 and Recommendation Attachment for R15001.
WEQ Open Access Same-time Information Systems (OASIS) Subcommittee: Acting in response to FERC Order No. 890, the WEQ OASIS Subcommittee has continued to work on formalizing the process of preemption and competition on the OASIS systems – 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Items 2.a.i.1-2 and 5.c. The preemption process is defined as the act of displacing all or a portion of the transmission capacity of an existing reservation or pending request to accommodate a higher priority (e.g., longer duration, higher price, etc.) request for service with or without the right of first refusal. The competition process addresses the right of first refusal (ROFR), which allows for, in certain instances, the holder of an existing reservation, known as a Defender, to modify its transmission reservation to match the characteristics of the Challenger’s higher priority request in order to avoid preemption.

On September 3, 2015, the members of the board approved proposed modifications to the 2015 WEQ Annual Plan that separate the preemption and competition project into two dynamic phases. First, the subcommittee will finalize the draft recommendation for 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 2.a.i.2 – Long Term Firm Rollover Rights Competition within the fourth quarter of 2015. Next, the second phase of the project will focus on 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 2.a.i.1 – Short Term Firm Preemption and Competition, an item scheduled to be completed within 2016. Overall, the preemption and competition standards development effort will propose modifications to the NAESB Business Practice Standards in WEQ-000, WEQ-001, WEQ-002, WEQ-003, and WEQ-013.

Additionally, 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 5.d/Standards Request R09015 has been merged into the work on preemption and competition. In response to this annual plan item, the WEQ OASIS Subcommittee is currently discussing the creation of a new concept, Consolidations. Under existing NAESB OASIS Business Practice Standards, customers must use the Resale mechanisms to merge two or more like reservations under a single assignment reference number. While use of the resale mechanism gives the customer a single reservation to manage, there is concern that it may not accurately reflect the process. The subcommittee proposes to dispel this concern through Consolidations, a mechanism that would allow for the merger of like reservations without the use of the Resale mechanism. The group anticipates including the proposed business practice standards for consolidations in the draft recommendation for short term competition in phase two of the project.

As always, all interested parties are welcome to attend the next WEQ OASIS face-to-face meeting hosted by Entergy in New Orleans, LA on November 17-19, 2015. A subcommittee conference call is also scheduled for December 3, 2015. During the conference call and the meeting, the subcommittee will focus on the development of the draft recommendations for the preemption and competition annual plan items.

Parallel Flow Visualization-Transmission Loading Relief (PFV-TLR): NAESB continues to coordinate with the Interchange Distribution Calculator (IDC) Association and NERC regarding the Parallel Flow Visualization (PFV) effort. As part of this project, the WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS) developed modifications to the WEQ-008 Transmission Loading Relief (TLR) – Eastern Interconnection standards that were approved by the WEQ Executive Committee on February 24, 2015. The revisions seek to improve the congestion management process within the Eastern Interconnection by providing for the submittal of real-time data to the IDC tool for use in its calculations.

In order to allow a field trial to be conducted on the standards, the recommendation has been held in abeyance during the full staffing period. During the full-staffing period, the IDC Association IDC Working Group is making test preparations for the field trial, including a review of the standards to identify the changes which need to take place in the IDC tool to conduct the field trial and the development of a test plan. The IDC Association is coordinating with NAESB on the creation of commercial test metrics to be included in the test plan and with NERC regarding the reliability metrics which should be included. The WEQ BPS has a standing agenda item to address any coordination issues that may arise with the IDC Association IDC Working Group during the course of the full-staffing period. NAESB will continue to work with both NERC and the IDC Association to address any coordination issues throughout the effort.

NAESB filed a status report on March 25, 2015, in Docket No. EL14-82-000, to inform FERC of the actions taken by the WEQ Executive Committee, to provide an overview of the currently proposed modifications and additional standards included in the approved recommendation, and to explain the next steps for the PFV project. The report was coordinated with NERC and the IDC Association.

For more information, please go to 2015 WEQ Annual Plan, WEQ OASIS Page, FERC Order No. 890, September 3, Board Meeting Agenda, Standards Request R09015 and Draft 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 2.a.i.2 Recommendation As Revised on October 1, 2015.

For more information, please go to 2015 WEQ Annual Plan, March 25, 2015 NAESB PFV Report to FERC, January 28, 2015 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, Entergy 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.
**STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT (continued)**

**NAESB and NERC Continuing Coordination:** With an eagle-eye toward coordination, the staff of NERC and NAESB hold monthly conference calls to discuss numerous industry goals. One such coordination item frequently addressed is the NERC BAL-004 Time Error Correction standards. NERC is now considering the retirement of the standards which may have an impact on the corresponding NAESB WEQ-006 Manual Time Error Correction Business Practice Standards. Ongoing communication regarding the Parallel Flow Visualization (PFV) project is critical, as the business practice standards are now voted out of the subcommittee and being held in abeyance until the field testing is complete. Recently, an additional functionality was added to the NAESB Electric Industry Registry (EIR). The coordination conference calls acknowledged that the new functionality allows for the registration of pseudo-ties to support the NERC Reliability Standards.

Another important topic discussed on the calls is the transition of certain NERC MOD Standards to NAESB Business Practice Standards in response to Standards Request R14002. The recommendation for the MOD standards was ratified by the NAESB membership on September 18, 2015. The WEQ Executive Committee review and approval of that recommendation led to the creation of the WEQ Executive Committee Contract Path Task Force, chaired by Paul Graves with Duke Energy and Joshua Phillips with Southwest Power Pool. The mission of the group is to provide a report clarifying the scope of unresolved contract path issues during the next WEQ Executive Committee meeting. The group held a kick-off conference call on September 18, 2015, followed by two more calls on September 30, 2015 and October 8, 2015.

To provide a brief history, the MOD efforts began last February with the submission of Standards Request, R14002, from NERC to NAESB. The recommendation was unanimously voted out of the WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS) on June 25, 2015. R14002 asked that NAESB consider including in its WEQ Business Practice Standards certain NERC Modeling Reliability Standard requirements proposed for retirement. The recommendation proposed a new book of standards, as well as modifications to WEQ-000 Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Definition of Terms, WEQ-001 Open Access Same-time Information Systems (OASIS), and WEQ-003 OASIS Data Dictionary. The standards were filed with the FERC on October 26, 2015 within Version 003.1 of the NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards. During the thirty-day formal industry comment period, seven comments were submitted from Idaho Power, Bonneville Power Administration, Southern Company, PJM, NCEMC, Southwest Power Pool, and a joint submission on behalf of ERCOT, IESO, MISO, and PJM. Throughout the effort, NAESB has been in communication with FERC and NERC staff to ensure synchronization.

**Demand-Side Management and Energy Efficiency (DSM-EE) Update:** NAESB recently participated with American National Standards Institute (ANSI) in a presentation that ANSI made to the NARUC Energy Resources and Environment Committee on September 18, 2015. ANSI provided an overview of the Energy Efficiency Standardization Coordination Collaborative (EESCC) as well as the Standardization Roadmap gap analysis. NAESB was asked to speak to the three potential standard development areas with which it could possibly assist: the establishment of a standardized format and content guide for technical reference manuals, standardized terms and definitions for reporting energy efficiency program and project data, and standardized reporting characteristics of audit and implementation data. The purpose of the call was to inform NARUC members of the ANSI effort and the potential standards development by NAESB as well as gauge support of NARUC and/or state commissions for NAESB to pursue further action.

The Standardization Roadmap was developed by the ANSI EESCC to improve energy and water efficiency by conducting a gap analysis of the existing standards in the efficiency space. The NAESB WEQ and REQ Energy Efficiency Measurement and Verification Standards, WEQ-021 and REQ.19, were included in the gap analysis and NAESB and ANSI have continued to coordinate efforts following the completion of the Standardization Roadmap gap analysis. As a result of the analysis, ANSI requested that NAESB consider standards development in eighteen areas.

As stated in the December 14, 2015 correspondence from NAESB to ANSI, after a comprehensive review by NAESB leadership, the three aforementioned areas in which potential standards development efforts may be pursued were noted. NAESB continues to hold ongoing discussions with ANSI as well as other organizations, such as the Department of Energy and the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership regarding the EESCC and the standardization roadmap. The next ANSI meeting to discuss all EESCC activities will be on November 12, 2015.


**RMQ Net Metering Model Business Practices Development:**

The RMQ Information Requirements and Technical Electronic Implementation Subcommittee (IR/TEIS) and the RMQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS) are working to complete standards to support Retail Net Metering. Due to the variety of net metering implementations and policies, the scope of the Retail Net Metering standards development effort is limited to providing metering data required by Market Participants in competitive energy markets in jurisdictions where their charges to certain Retail Customers must account for Retail Net Metering arrangements. The subcommittees continue to develop the Model Business Practices and technical implementation under 2015 RMQ Annual Plan Item 4. The first quarter 2016 publication date for the next RMQ publication, Version 3.1, remains contingent upon the completion of the Retail Net Metering Model Business Practices.

On September 18, 2015, the NAESB Membership ratified the Model Business Practices for Book 10 – Retail Customer Enrollment, Drop, and Account Information Change Model Business Practices. The Retail BPS is currently working on modifications to existing standards and accompanying process flows for Book 11 – Retail Customer Enrollment, Drop, and Account Information Change Using a Registration Agent Model Business Practices. The subcommittee anticipates that the modifications to Book 11 will be completed by the close of 2015.

The related modifications to Book 3 – Billing and Payments in Competitive Energy Markets Model Business Practices and Book 8 – Retail Customer Information Model Business Practices have been approved and ratified by the NAESB membership. The next RMQ BPS conference call will take place on December 15, 2015. All interested parties are welcome to attend.

In order to complete the full staffing process for 2015 RMQ Annual Plan Item 4, the RMQ IR/TEIS will develop Data Dictionaries and technical implementation to support the Retail Net Metering Model Business Practices discussed above. The subcommittee has completed the recommendation for Book 3 and anticipates that the technical implementations for Book 8 will be completed by the fourth quarter of 2015. The RMQ IR/TEIS will hold a conference call on December 1, 2015. During the call, the subcommittee will continue to discuss 2015 Annual Plan Item 1.b – Technical Implementation for Book 8 – Customer Information.


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**RMQ Open Field Message Bus (OpenFMB) Task Force:**

The RMQ Open Field Message Bus (OpenFMB) Task Force participants have continued biweekly conference calls to develop the Model Business Practices that are scheduled to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2015. The OpenFMB project defines a framework that provides a specification for power systems field devices to leverage a non-proprietary and standards-based reference architecture, which consists of internet protocol (IP) networking and Internet of Things (IoT) messaging protocols. In short, OpenFMB Model Business Practices will enhance interoperability between proprietary intelligent devices on the grid. Created by the RMQ Executive Committee and co-chaired by Joe Zhou of Ernst & Young and Stuart Laval of Duke Energy, the task force has held ten meetings since its April 17, 2015 kick-off planning call. Driven by the Standards Request R14008, submitted last October by Duke Energy Corp., this effort will see NAESB develop new model business practices to support the OpenFMB architecture for interoperable data exchange between distributed power systems devices on the electric grid’s field area networks. In other words, the OpenFMB project will provide a framework for distributed intelligent nodes interacting with each other.

Throughout the project, the OpenFMB Task Force and NAESB staff have coordinated with the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel (SGIP) OpenFMB Team in order to utilize three Use Case Scenarios that will define the preliminary scope of NAESB REQ.26 – OpenFMB Model Business Practices. On November 3-5, 2015, the SGIP will showcase the OpenFMB live demonstration during its 2015 Annual Conference in New Orleans, LA. The OpenFMB architecture will also appear at the DistribuTECH conference scheduled for February 9-11, 2016.

The OpenFMB framework for power systems field devices seeks to leverage a non-proprietary and standards-based reference architecture platform, which consists of internet protocol networking, Internet of Things messaging protocols, and standardized common semantic models, to enable communications and information exchange between devices on the electric grid. The utility-led effort considers priorities and previous interoperability experiences to enable legacy equipment to be retrofitted for new capabilities, structures, and extended life.

The next OpenFMB Task Force conference call will take place on November 13, 2015. During that call, the task force will continue working on the draft model business practices. As always, this conference call is open to any interested parties.

**2016 Annual Plan Conference Calls:** NAESB has initiated the process for the development of the 2016 annual plans with a set of calls that took place on October 16, 2015. The conference calls were open to NAESB members and interested industry participants. During the call, the participants proposed and discussed items that should be included on the 2016 annual plans for the retail, wholesale electric and wholesale gas quadrants. During the October 20-22, 2015 quadrant Executive Committee meetings hosted by Dominion in Richmond, VA, the drafts of the 2016 annual plans were reviewed. The plans will now be forwarded to the NAESB Board of Directors for consideration during its December 10, 2015 meeting. The board is responsible for approving the plans and making any needed modifications to support the organization’s strategies and focus.

*For more information, please go to Annual Plan Subcommittee Page and Announcement, Call for Comments, Agenda and Meeting Materials.*

**Update on the Electric Industry Registry (EIR) and e-Tagging Specification:** The NAESB EIR serves as the central repository for information utilized by the electric industry in electronic tagging. In 2012, the NAESB EIR replaced the NERC Transmission System Information Networks (TSIN) as the industry registry tool. OATI serves as the NAESB chosen system administrator for the EIR and manages the tool as OATI webRegistry. NAESB, NERC, and OATI have continuously coordinated to inform the industry of modifications and improvements to the NAESB EIR.

The newest such improvement is the removal of alarms that are older than one year. This enhancement was executed on September 29, 2015 to address an issue created by the backlog of user alarms. The registry utilizes alarms to provide users notifications for system activity, such as new registrations and approvals. Currently, the registry is maintaining all past user alarms for the previous three years, causing the registry to experience slower processing times. As a result, it was necessary to remove alarms that are older than 12 months to maintain the registry's efficient performance. OATI and NAESB will work to develop an alarm retention policy for future alarms.

Also, as previously announced, the NAESB EIR began accepting the registration of pseudo-ties on June 9, 2015. This registry enhancement was initiated by a request submitted by the NERC Coordinate Interchange Standards Drafting Team (CISDT) on June 13, 2013. The enhancement request, ER13001, proposed modifications to the EIR that would allow for the electronic tagging of pseudo-tie transactions and corresponded to the modifications made to the NERC Reliability Standard INT-004-3.1, Requirement 3 that requires all existing and future pseudo-ties to be registered in the NAESB EIR. NERC filed a petition containing the modified reliability standards in February 2014. The FERC approved the standards, including the proposed implementation date for INT-004-3.1, Requirement 3 (the first calendar day two calendar quarters after the NAESB EIR accepts pseudo-tie registrations) in June 2014. The WEQ CISS will continue to evaluate future modifications to the registry as enhancement requests are submitted by the industry.

*For more information, please go to 2015 WEQ Annual Plan, NAESB EIR Page, WEQ CISS Page, ER13001, ER13001 Recommendation, Request Form for Enhancement to NAESB EIR and WEQ-004 Coordinate Interchange Business Practice Standards.*

**Smart Grid Update:** NAESB has been in communication with the Green Button Alliance to establish a working relationship to support their efforts as they promote the expansion and adoption of Green Button implementation by utilities. In response to the 2011 White House-led call to action, the Green Button Initiative challenges utilities in the United States to provide their customers with easy and secure access to their energy usage data in a computer- and consumer-friendly format via a “Green Button” on electric utility websites. The Green Button Alliance facilitates compliance, development, and employment of the Green Button Initiative by providing certification of implementations, marketing, and education.

The NAESB leadership has maintained communication with Barry Hasser, President of the Green Button Alliance, and his staff to discuss coordination between NAESB and the Green Button Alliance. As part of the discussion, one important topic is the effort to ensure that the NAESB ESPI Standard and the Green Button Alliance Certification for the Green Button are consistent. Under the Green Button Alliance certification program for the Green Button, anyone seeking certification is required to have valid access to the NAESB ESPI standard. Additionally, the Green Button Alliance will support the ESPI Task Force as it addresses 2015 Annual Plan Items.

Serving as the critical foundation for Green Button, the NAESB REQ.21 Energy Services Provider Interface Model Business Practices (ESPI) consists of two components, a common XML format for energy usage information and a data exchange protocol which allows for the automatic transfer of data from a utility to a third party based on customer authorization. ESPI has been endorsed as part of the Green Button Initiative by the United States Department of Energy. Launched in January 2012, the Green Button Initiative now bolsters more than 150 utilities and service providers that have committed to providing more than 60 million U.S. households (altogether 100 million people) access to their own Green Button energy data. Utility customers are able to employ Green Button data to save energy in their businesses and homes. Additionally, a growing number of companies are offering products, services, and apps that use Green Button data.

*For more information, please go to 2015 RMO Annual Plan, ESPI Task Force Page, REQ.21 ESPI Model Business Practices, NARUC Resolution on Smart Grid Principles and Green Button Page.*
The NAESB Board of Directors met on September 3, 2015. The board meeting served as the annual meeting of the members and strategic session of the organization. A stellar panel of industry leaders, led by Sheila Hollis, and including Timothy Simon, Annabelle Lee, Wayne Gardner, Rick Smead, Christine Tezak, Lorraine Cross, Marc Spitzer, Michelle Foss and Terry Thorn, provided their insights on the industry and made recommendations that NAESB may want to consider as it works to meet the markets’ needs through standards development. As always, the panel discussion will serve as a strong basis for the development of the 2016 annual plans, and help guide the Board Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Task Force as it makes recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning the future of the organization.

During the board meeting, the members considered a resolution proposed by the Parliamentary Committee to modify the NAESB Bylaws and Operating Practices to create a process for the removal of directors in the event of misfeasance, malfeasance or nonfeasance. The resolution was unanimously voted out of the Parliamentary Committee during its July 29, 2015 conference call. As the action required a change to the NAESB Bylaws, it was necessary to meet a voting threshold of 75% support from the Board of Directors and 40% support from each fully populated segment to move forward. Although the motion received unanimous support from the directors present at the meeting, there were not enough votes to meet the required voting thresholds for modifications to the bylaws, and a notational ballot was sent to the absentee board members on September 4, 2015. Upon the return of the notational ballots, it was determined that the motion passed and the proposed resolution was adopted by the board.

The Board Revenue Committee met on July 29, 2015 to discuss the possible submission of a standards request to develop a standardized liquefied natural gas (LNG) contract and the October 6, 2015 NAESB 101 webinar for Commissioners and Commission staff. The committee also reviewed recent NAESB communication efforts, the Membership Report, the Revenue Report, and the Publication Schedule. On November 9, 2015, the Board Revenue Committee will consider activities for external communication, as well as the publication schedule and revenue basis.

On July 29, 2015, the Board Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Task Force held a conference call to discuss several recommendations for the 2015-2017 Strategic Plan including a presentation concerning standards drafting to be offered to the quadrant Executive Committees, new certification programs, and the next NAESB industry survey to be distributed after the April 2016 board meeting. The committee also heard a suggestion that a review of the NAESB Strategic Plan and the organization’s activities should be conducted by the task force annually, prior to the September board meeting. With the release of the proposed 2016 Annual Plans, the Board Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Task Force will review the plans to ensure consistency with the NAESB 2015-2017 Strategic Plan during its next meeting on November 9, 2015.

As detailed in the Cybersecurity section of this newsletter, the Board Certification Program Committee met on July 28, 2015 to modify the ACA Certification Program. The committee forwarded the modifications to the WEQ CSS for further subcommittee discussions. In preparation for the December board meeting, the Parliamentary Committee will meet on November 9, 2015 to continue discussions on whether the board should act based upon a majority of the entire board of directors or a majority of each quadrant.


NAESB Primers and Training Courses:
Please monitor the NAESB Primers and Training Courses web page for additional information and scheduling of upcoming courses.
Cybersecurity: During its July 28, 2015 conference call, the Board Certification Program Committee discussed an initiative by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Center of Excellence to develop an Identity and Access Management Reference Architecture for energy participants. As part of the effort, a work group is considering endorsing the NAESB Authorized Certification Authority (ACA) Certification Program as a method to achieve stronger authentication of individuals and systems. Currently, entities seeking a certificate must register in the NAESB EIR. This requirement could be seen as a barrier to entry for those participants that do not have a business purpose for which to register in the NAESB EIR. During two follow up calls on August 24, 2015 and September 14, 2015, the committee considered that registration in the NAESB EIR, while important for entities utilizing certificates for WEQ applications, such as the NAESB EIR and OASIS, does not provide an added security benefit that would necessitate all entities seeking a certificate, regardless of purpose, to register in the NAESB EIR. The Board Certification Program Committee drafted modifications to the ACA Certification Program and forwarded the document to the WEQ CSS to discuss the need for potential modifications to the standards or specification document that support the certification program at its next meeting.

As part of these discussions, the subcommittee also preliminary addressed the potential development of Public Key Infrastructure Standards for the RMQ. This proposal was also discussed by the RMQ Executive Committee at its meeting on August 19, 2015 and is on the agenda for continued discussions during its next meeting on October 21, 2015.

During its August 18, 2015 meeting, the WEQ Executive Committee approved 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. There were no comments submitted during the thirty day formal comment period for the recommendation. Voted out during the April 29, 2015 joint WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee (CSS) and Coordinate Interchange Subcommittee (CISS) meeting and reviewed once more during the July 13, 2015 WEQ CSS conference call, the no action recommendation reflects the subcommittee’s conclusion that the WEQ standards do not need to be modified to address any known XML vulnerabilities.

The WEQ CSS held a conference call on October 14, 2015 to vote out two no action recommendations for two annual plan items: 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.a.1 (Review annually at a minimum, the accreditation requirements for Authorized Certification Authorities (ACA) to determine if any changes are needed to meet market conditions) and 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.c (Evaluate and modify standards as needed to support and/or complement the current version of the NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection Standards and any other activities of the FERC related to cybersecurity). Earlier this year, the subcommittee determined that no modifications to the accreditation requirements for ACAs were warranted. However, the participants agreed to postpone a recommendation until later in the year when market conditions could be reevaluated. For 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.c, the subcommittee concluded that the current NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards support Version V of the NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Standards. Furthermore, the subcommittee did not identify any current FERC cybersecurity related activities that would require current action by the NAESB WEQ, but did note several ongoing industry efforts that should be monitored.

For more information, please go to 2015 WEQ Annual Plan, 2015 RMQ Annual Plan, WEQ CISS Page, WEQ CISS Page, August 18, 2015 Executive Committee Meeting Notes, No Action Recommendation for 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.b, Request for Comments on 2015 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.b, April 29, 2015 WEQ Joint CSS and CISS Final Minutes, October 14, 2015 CSS Meeting Agenda, Board Certification Program Page, EIR Page, July 28, 2015 Board Certification Program Committee Meeting Notes, Board Certification Program Committee Redlines to the ACA Process Document as of September 14, 2015 and August 19, 2015 RMQ Executive Committee Meeting Notes,

NAESB Webcast Courses: To support industry utilization of the NAESB WGQ Contracts, NAESB will host the Understanding the NAESB WGQ Contracts Webcast Course on December 3, 2015. 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 WGQ contracts.

From the beginning of 2015, NAESB has provided several interactive webcast courses. The WGQ Business Practice Standards: Updates and Changes Version 3.0 Webcast Course was held on September 15, 2015 and again on September 29, 2015. As you may know, the FERC issued a NOPR, Standards for Business Practices of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines, in Docket No. RM96-1-038 on July 16, 2015. The NOPR proposes to revise the Commission’s regulations to incorporate by reference, with certain exceptions, Version 3.0 of the NAESB WGQ Business Practice Standards. The webcast course provided a comprehensive review of the updates and changes made in Version 3.0 of the NAESB WGQ Business Practice Standards.

The NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization Webcast Course took 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 provided an overview of the standards developed in response to the NOPR and adopted in the final order, and highlights the steps NAESB intends to take to support the FERC action.

Filings: Version 003.1 of the NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards were published by the NAESB office on September 30, 2015 and filed with the FERC on October 26, 2015. The changes represent a substantial amount of work on the behalf of the WEQ and reflect twenty seven separate action items (requests, minor corrections or annual plan items), twenty one of which are final actions and six that are minor corrections. Of the changes in this new version, there are: new items – 11 abbreviations/acronyms, 24 definitions, 138 standards, 1 appendix; revised items – 17 definitions, 188 standards, 4 appendices; and deleted items – 1 abbreviation/acronym, 3 definitions, 79 standards, 1 appendix. The WEQ Business Practice Standards, Version 003.1 incorporates action items from August 1, 2012 through September 30, 2015, including the new Modeling standards and standards affecting the OASIS systems. NAESB would like to thank all of the members and participants who provided their expertise as the business practice standards were developed.

On October 16, 2015, FERC issued a Final Rule, Standards for Business Practices of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines; Coordination of the Scheduling Processes of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines and Public Utilities (Order No. 587-W) in Docket Nos. RM96-1-038 and RM14-2-003. Order 587-W amends the FERC regulations to incorporate by reference, with certain exceptions, Version 3.0 of the NAESB WQ Business Practice Standards. The NAESB WQ Version 3.0 standards were ratified by the NAESB membership and submitted to the FERC on November 14, 2014. The updated business practice standards contain standards related to gas-electric harmonization and Index of Customers codes. On September 25, 2015, NAESB submitted a report to FERC regarding errata to Versions 2.0, 2.1 and 3.0 of the NAESB WQ standards in Docket No. RM96-1-038. The minor corrections in the September report included MC15003, modifying the Executive Summary section of the Capacity Release Implementation Guide; MC15004, modifying WQ Business Practice Standard No. 2.4.1; and MC15005, correcting various errors to the WQ Business Practice Standards. All three minor corrections were adopted by the WGQ Executive Committee via notational ballot on April 9, 2015.

Also submitted to FERC on September 25, 2015, the NAESB Status Report on the Development of Modeling, Data, and Analysis Business Practice Standards (Docket Nos. RM05-5-000 and RM14-7-000) informed the Commission that NAESB has completed the standards development process on the MOD Standards and will file the new suite of business practice standards as part of Version 003.1 of the NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards in October of 2015. The information contained in the filing was intended to supplement the comments NAESB submitted to FERC on August 25, 2014 as well as the previous status report made by NAESB on December 18, 2014.

FERC issued an Order on Rehearing for FERC Order No. 809 in Docket No. RM14-2-001 on September 17, 2015. In the Order, the “Commission request[ed] that the natural gas and electric industries, through NAESB, begin considering the development of standards related to faster, computerized scheduling and file such standards or a report on the development of such standards with the Commission by October 17, 2016.”

As you know, 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 WQ 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, FERC requested that NAESB consider a standards development effort for electronic scheduling.


### NAESB New Members

**Retail Markets Quadrant (Segment):**
- Ernst & Young LLP
  (Retail Electric Service Providers/Suppliers)

**Wholesale Gas Quadrant (Segment):**
- Gasductos de Chihuahua S. de R.L. de C.V.
  (Pipeline)
- Millennium Pipeline Company, LLC
  (Pipeline)
- Tallgrass Operations, LLC
  (Pipeline)
- World Fuel Services, Inc.
  (Services)

**Wholesale Electric Quadrant (Segment):**
- Links Technology Solutions, Inc.
  (Technology and Services)
**NAESB Quadrant/Segment Membership Analysis:**

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<th>NAESB Quadrant/Segment Membership Analysis:</th>
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<td>Wholesale Gas Quadrant</td>
<td>124 Members</td>
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<tr>
<td>End Users Segment</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>Distributors Segment</td>
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<td>Pipelines Segment</td>
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<td>Retail Electric Service Providers/Suppliers Segment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wholesale Electric Quadrant</td>
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<td>End Users Segment</td>
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<td>Independent Grid Operators/Planners Segment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technology &amp; Services Segment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Membership</td>
<td>310 Members</td>
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*For more information, please go to Copyright, NAESB Materials Order Form or contact Denise Rager (drager@naesb.org) for additional information.*

*Non-member Access/Participation:* For our participants who are non-members, from the NAESB Home Page you can access one of the four quadrant squares – wholesale electric, retail electric, wholesale gas and retail gas, you are directed to the “NAESB Non-member Access: NAESB Committees, Subcommittees and Task Forces” web page, ([https://www.naesb.org/nonmember_page.asp](https://www.naesb.org/nonmember_page.asp)). This web page contains a list of links including quadrant work products available and a link to the “NAESB Current Committee Activities” web page, ([https://www.naesb.org/committee_activities.asp](https://www.naesb.org/committee_activities.asp)). The “NAESB Current Committee Activities” web page provides a table sorted by date, and includes all meetings scheduled for the immediate past 30 days, the current day, and the upcoming 30 days and the meeting materials for those meetings. Also for our non-member participants who attend standards development subcommittee or task force meetings either in person or by phone/web cast, there will be a fee charged for attendance. The fee structure is outlined on the web site at the top of the “NAESB Current Committee Activities” page. On this web page, for the subcommittee or task force meetings or conference calls that are specific to standards development efforts, the non-member can access the “non-member RSVP” link for the meeting or group that is of interest and, in doing so will be directed to a web page, “NAESB Non-Member Committee Registration,” for payment information. The information the non-member provides can be for a single meeting or for a full year of meetings. Once submitted an email confirmation is provided to the non-member including an immediate confirmation on the “NAESB Non-Member Committee Registration” web page. If you have already registered, an immediate notification will be displayed and payment will not be processed. Once registered, all access information is provided by email. For meetings that do not have a “Non-member RSVP” link, there is no fee to attend. The agenda and meeting materials for the meeting of interest is accessed from the “NAESB Committee Activities” web page.

*For more information, please go to NAESB Current Committee Activities or contact Denise Rager (drager@naesb.org) for additional information.*