**via posting**

**TO:** NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization (GEH) Forum Participants and Interested Industry Parties

**FROM:** Elizabeth Mallett, NAESB Director, Wholesale Gas Quadrant (WGQ) and Retail Markets Quadrant (RMQ)

**RE:** Staff Notes from theNAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization Forum Meeting – July 13, 2023

**DATE:** July 25, 2023

Dear NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization Forum (GEH) Participants,

A NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization Forum meeting was held on Thursday, July 13, 2023 at 1:00 PM Central. Mr. Gee presided over the meeting. The notes below reflect the NAESB staff summary of the meeting.

A recording of the meeting has been posted on the NAESB GEH Forum webpage: <https://naesb.org/recordings/geh071323recording.mp4>

The chat log from the meeting has been posted on the NAESB GEH Forum webpage: <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323chat.docx>

| **Notes from the July 13, 2023 NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization Forum Meeting** | |
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| **Administrative** | Mr. Booe welcomed the participants and provided the Antitrust and Other Meeting Policies guidance. He reminded the NAESB GEH Forum participants that the meeting is being recorded. Mr. Booe explained that, during this meeting, he would briefly explain the NAESB voting process. He stated that since the last meeting, the NAESB GEH Forum Chairs have spent a substantial amount of time reviewing the comments received and finalizing the twenty recommendations. He explained that the number of recommendations increased from nineteen to twenty because one was split into two parts. Mr. Booe stated that, after the meeting, the final recommendations and the ballot will be posted for a week-long voting period. Mr. Booe thanked Mr. Gee, Ms. Tierney, and Mr. Wood for their substantial work and leadership in chairing the NAESB GEH Forum over the past year. |
| **Review Process for Voting on the Recommendations of the NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization Forum** | Mr. Booe provided an overview of the voting process. After the meeting, an [Eligible GEH Forum Voters](https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323eligible_voters.docx) list containing the names of the 730 individuals that have participated in one or more NAESB GEH Forum meetings will be posted to the NAESB GEH Forum page and included in an email distribution. The Eligible GEH Forum Voters will receive an email distribution from NAESB through Constant Contact providing the instructions on how to vote and providing a link to vote on the Survey Monkey survey software. All votes must be submitted through the Survey Monkey website. Mr. Booe stated that the voting process will be a week long to provide an opportunity for those voting to coordinate with the individuals in their company that have participated in a GEH Forum meeting to cast a vote on behalf of their company. He noted that all of the votes will be made publicly available and the full voting record will be included as an appendix to the report. He stated that, similar to the interim survey, the votes will be displayed by quadrants and segments as well.  Mr. Booe noted that the [NAESB Participation and Voting Procedures Review](https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh_balanced_voting_quadrant_segment_descriptions.doc) document is posted at the top of the NAESB GEH Forum page and details everything that he would provide in his overview of the voting process. Mr. Booe explained that the NAESB balanced voting procedures requires votes to be taken on a company basis. For that reason, the NAESB GEH Forum will provide a week-long voting period so Eligible GEH Forum Voters have time to coordinate with the individuals in their company that have participated in a GEH Forum meeting to cast a vote on behalf of their company by 5:00 pm Central on Thursday, July 20, 2023. He stated that, per the NAESB balanced voting procedures, each respondent must identify with an appropriate NAESB quadrant and segment, or as an observer, and the company they represent. Each company may only cast one vote on each recommendation; however, if a company participates in multiple NAESB quadrants and segments, such as vertically integrated organizations, participants from that company may cast multiple votes as long as each participant is representing different market segments. A single individual from a company may not vote more than once in multiple quadrants and segments. Votes must be cast by different representatives. Mr. Booe stated that, in the strawman vote that was taken earlier in the process, trade associations submitted votes on behalf of their members; however, that is not permitted under the balanced voting procedures and will not be allowed for the present vote. Mr. Booe opened the floor for questions.  Ms. Chambers asked whether the members she represents could vote themselves. Mr. Booe stated that those companies, if eligible, will need to vote on their own behalf, as there is not an option to vote by proxy or as a representative. Ms. Bagot asked if companies within multiple segments in one quadrant could cast more than one vote. Mr. Booe responded affirmatively and stated that if a company participates in multiple market segments within the same quadrant a vote could be cast by different representatives for each segment. Mr. Booe stated that he has received questions on the ability to submit comments through Survey Monkey. He explained that there will not be an open field for text on Survey Monkey; however, as always, any interested party is welcome to submit comments to the NAESB office which will then become part of the record and referenced in the report.  Mr. Booe stated that the final NAESB GEH Report will be posted at the end of July and will look similar to previous NAESB reports with a summary of the activities undertaken by the NAESB GEH Forum, the twenty final recommendations, a description of the rationale for the recommendations sourced from the record, and the results of the balanced vote on the recommendations. At the time the report is submitted to FERC and NERC, it will be made public, posted on the website, announced through the NAESB GEH Forum distribution list, and NAESB will issue a press release.  Mr. Fife asked how the ballots would be distributed. Mr. Booe stated that the ballots will be sent to everyone at his company who is listed as participating in the recent NAESB GEH Forum meetings. He reminded the participants that it is one vote per company, unless the company participates in multiple market segments. Mr. Smith asked whether Survey Monkey would allow the respondents to leave a recommendation blank. Mr. Booe stated that the software does allow participants to skip questions and that action would have the same effect as an abstention. Mr. Busch asked whether the voting results will impact the recommendations that are included within the final report. Mr. Booe stated that the recommendation would be included in the report, and noted that a vote on a recommendation cannot fail, as the final report is set up merely to present information that will inform those making the determinations.  Mr. Desselle stated that a question in the chat asked whether NAESB members who have not been active in the process will be able to vote. = Mr. Booe explained that he spoke with the Chairs of the NAESB GEH Forum and they determined that only those who are involved in the process and understand the context of the recommendations should submit votes. For that reason, the voting is not open to organizations that did not participate in the process. Mr. Hand stated that some attorneys are representing multiple clients and asked how the voting on behalf of those multiple companies would work. Mr. Booe stated that, if an individual from a company has not participated, they are not on the Eligible GEH Forum Voters list. Ms. McQuade stated that, outside of the voting process, trade associations and attorneys could submit comments stating who they are representing with their vote. She stated that such a comment would not be counted as a vote, but would be made a part of the record. Ms. Chambers stated that the trade associations she represents have many members and asked whether they should indicate when they vote that they are part of the trade association. Mr. Booe stated that the companies should represent themselves individually because a trade association would only have one vote. Ms. Chambers stated that the trade associations that she represents were under the impression that they could vote in the GEH Forum individually even as she was covering the meetings for the companies. Mr. Desselle stated that, if a company did not participate, then they are not on the list of Eligible GEH Forum Voters, and will not receive a ballot.  Mr. Desselle and Mr. Gee thanked the NAESB GEH Forum participants and the NAESB staff. Mr. Desselle stated that another summer or winter event could result in the loss of the industries’ ability to act collectively in addressing issues and they may not like the outcomes of some of the resulting mandates. Mr. Gee emphasized that now is the time for the industries’ to take control of their own destiny, rather than waiting for the next winter storm event. Mr. Booe thanked Mr. Gee and Mr. Desselle for their closing remarks. |
| **Next Steps & Other Business** | Mr. Booe encouraged the participants to contact the NAESB Office with any questions regarding voting. |
| **Adjourn** | The meeting was adjourned at 1:29 PM Central. |
| **Work Papers Provided for the Meeting** | **Meeting Related Documents**   * Announcement and Agenda:   <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323a.docx>   * Antitrust Guidance and Other Meeting Policies:   <http://www.naesb.org/misc/antitrust_guidance.doc>  **Meeting Materials**   * NAESB GEH Forum Chairs’ Strawman Recommendation:   <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923w1.doc>   * Comments Submitted by P. Jagtiani, NGSA:   <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923w3.pdf>   * Comments Submitted by C. Glazer, PJM:   <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923w4.docx>   * Comments Submitted by J. Namazi, EQT Energy, LLC:   <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923w5.pdf>   * NAESB GEH Forum Chairs’ Strawman Recommendations:   <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w1.doc>   * Comments Submitted by C. Burks, Big Data Energy Services:   <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w2.pdf>   * Comments Submitted by A. Bradbury, American Exploration & Production Council (AXPC):   <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w3.pdf>   * Comments Submitted by B. Welch, MISO:   <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w4.pdf>   * Comments Submitted by N. Bagot, Electric Power Supply Association (EPSA):   <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w5.pdf>   * Comments Submitted by C. Smith, Interstate Natural Gas Association of America (INGAA):   <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w6.pdf>   * Comments Submitted by C. Tipton, Range Resources - Appalachia, LLC:   <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w7.pdf>   * Comments Submitted by D. Schryver, American Public Gas Association (APGA):   <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w8.pdf>   * Comments Submitted by P. Henderson, Marcellus Shale Coalition:   <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w9.pdf> |
| **Attendees** | * Please see the posted participant attendance record:   <https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323a2.docx> |