

# NAESB Bulletin

March - July 2017 Volume 10, Issue 1

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## 2017 Calendar:

### August

8/10 - Joint WEQ BPS and WEQ CISS Conf. Call  
8/10 - WEQ SRS Conf. Call  
8/15 - WEQ Executive Committee Meeting (Dallas, TX)  
8/15 - WGQ IR/Technical Conf. Call  
8/16-17 - WEQ OASIS Meeting (Dallas, TX)  
8/17 - WGQ Executive Committee Conf. Call  
8/22 - WGQ Contracts Subcommittee Meeting (Houston, TX)  
8/22 - WEQ CISS Conf. Call  
8/24 - NAESB Monthly Update Conf. Call  
8/31 - Board Revenue Committee Conf. Call  
8/31 - DSM/EE Demand Side Management and Energy Efficiency Conf. Call

### September

9/4 - Holiday - Labor Day (NAESB Closed)  
9/6 - WGQ IR/Technical Meeting (Houston, TX)  
9/6 - Retail Leadership Meeting (Houston, TX)  
9/6 - WEQ Leadership Meeting (Houston, TX)  
9/6 - WGQ Leadership Meeting (Houston, TX)  
9/6 - NAESB Board Reception & Dinner with Guest Speaker  
9/7 - NAESB Board of Directors Meeting (Houston, TX)  
9/7 - WEQ CSS Meeting (Houston, TX)  
9/13 - WEQ OASIS Conf. Call  
9/14 - WEQ SRS Conf. Call  
9/26-28 - WEQ OASIS Meeting (Charlotte, NC)

### October

10/4 - NAESB Monthly Update Conf. Call  
10/5 - Understanding the NAESB WGQ Contracts Web Cast Course  
10/9 - Holiday - Columbus Day (NAESB Closed)  
10/19 - WEQ SRS Conf. Call  
10/23-24 - Retail BPS Meeting (Richmond, VA)  
10/24-25 - WGQ IR/Technical Meeting (Richmond, VA)  
10/24 - WEQ Executive Committee Meeting (Richmond, VA)  
10/25 - Retail Executive Committee Meeting (Richmond, VA)  
10/25 - Retail IR/TEIS Meeting (Richmond, VA)  
10/25-26 - WEQ OASIS Meeting (Richmond, VA)  
10/26 - WGQ Executive Committee Meeting (Richmond, VA)

### November

11/16 - WEQ SRS Conf. Call  
11/23 - Holiday - Thanksgiving (NAESB Closed)  
11/24 - Holiday - Day after Thanksgiving (NAESB Closed)  
11/28-30 - WEQ OASIS Meeting (Birmingham, AL)

### December

12/7 - NAESB Monthly Update Conf. Call  
12/12-13 - WGQ IR/Technical Meeting (Houston, TX)  
12/13 - Retail Leadership Meeting (Houston, TX)  
12/13 - WEQ Leadership Meeting (Houston, TX)  
12/13 - WGQ Leadership Meeting (Houston, TX)  
12/13 - NAESB Board Reception & Dinner with Guest Speaker  
12/14 - NAESB Board of Directors Meeting (Houston, TX)  
12/25 - Holiday - Christmas (NAESB Closed)  
12/26 - Holiday - Day after Christmas (NAESB Closed)

**September Board of Directors Meeting:** On September 7, the NAESB Board of Directors will host its meeting at a new location – the Marriott Marquis in downtown Houston. This meeting will serve as both the annual Meeting of the Members and the Strategic Session of the organization. Several Advisory Council members will be in attendance to discuss strategies that NAESB should evaluate as the organization looks ahead to its future.

Of course, one major focus of discussion at the board meeting will be the new congressionally mandated report by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, *Enhancing the Resilience of the Nation's Electricity System*. Co-authored by Dr. Sue Tierney of the Analysis Group, the report emphasizes, in one of its many suggestions, that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and NAESB “should further prioritize their efforts to improve awareness, communications, coordination, and planning between the natural gas and electric industries.” Further, the report also establishes several areas that should be considered to achieve a resilience strategy. Dr. Tierney will be present to provide comments on the report during the Board of Director’s meeting.

Dr. Christopher Kutarna, co-author of the best-selling, internationally acclaimed book *Age of Discovery: Navigating the Risks and Rewards of Our New Renaissance*, will be the dinner speaker on September 6. Among other predictions, Dr. Kutarna publicly foresaw the outcome of the United Kingdom’s 2016 referendum on EU membership (Brexit) and the election of Donald Trump as President of the United States. The following morning, the annual Meeting of Members and Strategic Session discussions will lay a foundation upon which the 2018 NAESB Annual Plans may be drafted. As always, the Board of Directors will discuss several agenda topics, including a review of the membership and financial reports and a recommendation from the Parliamentary Committee to modify the NAESB Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws to detail a process for weighted simple majority voting by the Board of Directors. As are all NAESB meetings, the Board of Directors meeting is open to all interested parties. Please RSVP if you plan to attend.

For more information, please go to [Board Announcement](#), [Enhancing the Resilience of the Nation's Electricity System](#) and [July 26, 2017 Parliamentary Committee Agenda](#).

**Support of the Mexican Markets:** On August 22, 2017, the Wholesale Gas Quadrant (WGQ) Contracts Subcommittee will hold a face-to-face meeting in Houston, Texas to review and possibly vote out a recommendation containing the draft Mexican Addendum for the NAESB Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas. The subcommittee began working on this project in December in response to several informal requests made to NAESB, including from Mexico’s Comisión Reguladora de Energía. Since its December kickoff, the WGQ Contracts Subcommittee has held five meetings to discuss the effort in detail. To encourage further feedback from the industry, the draft recommendation was posted for a twenty-five-day informal industry comment period that concluded on July 6, 2017. In mid-July, the subcommittee reviewed the informal comments received from Munich Re Trading LLC and modified the draft recommendation as necessary. With the potential to serve as a stepping stone to future efforts with Mexico’s Comisión Reguladora de Energía, the Mexican Addendum seeks to aid entities participating in the newly reformed Mexican market. The August 22, 2017 WGQ Contracts Subcommittee meeting is open to all interested parties.

In addition to a Mexican Addendum, NAESB has acquired verbatim Spanish translations of the NAESB Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas; the NAESB Canadian Addendum; and the NAESB WGQ Model Credit Support Addendum. As always, NAESB looks forward to supporting future standardization efforts within the Mexican market.

For more information, please go to [2017 WGQ Annual Plan](#), [August 22, 2017 Chair's Work Paper](#), [July 12, 2017 WGQ Contracts Agenda](#), [Request for Informal Comments](#), [Draft Recommendation for Mexican Addendum as Revised on June 6, 2017](#), [Redlined Comments Submitted by Munich Re Trading LLC](#), [Clean Comments Submitted by Munich Re Trading LLC](#), [NAESB Order Form](#), [Spanish Translation of the WGO 6.3.1 - NAESB Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas](#), [Spanish Translation of the WGO 6.3.1.CA - Canadian Addendum](#) and [Spanish Translation of the WGO 6.5.3 - NAESB WGQ Model Credit Support Addendum](#).

Click on any underlined text and you can access more detailed reports.

**WGQ Publication:** Scheduled for the third quarter of 2017, the next WGQ publication will include recommendations on several standards requests that were recently discussed within the WGQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS) and the joint WGQ Information and Technical Subcommittees (IR/Tech).

In late July, the WGQ BPS met to approve a recommendation for a standards request submitted by Kinder Morgan, Inc. on July 7, 2017. The standards request, R17003, asks that a data element and two associated code values be added to the WGQ Business Practice Standards. The IR/Tech has scheduled a meeting in September to discuss the technical aspects of the standards request.

During the August WGQ Executive Committee conference call, the committee will consider a recommendation for Standards Request R17002, submitted by Boardwalk Pipeline Partners, LP and Kinder Morgan Inc. Approved by the WGQ BPS and IR/Tech in mid-July, the recommendation for R17002 modifies one NAESB WGQ Business Practice Standard and suggests related modifications to the corresponding data dictionary and implementation guides. A thirty-day formal industry comment period for the recommendation will close on August 14, 2017.

In response to R17001, submitted by TransCanada Pipelines and Spectra Energy Corp./Enbridge Inc., the WGQ BPS voted out a recommendation to modify the NAESB WGQ standards to remove references to “gigacalories” as the standard quantity for nominations, confirmations, and scheduling in Mexico. Next, IR/Tech will review the recommendation and comments from the WGQ BPS to draft any corresponding changes to the WGQ Implementation Guides. Once IR/Tech completes the additional modifications, the recommendation addressing R17001 will be posted for a thirty-day formal industry comment period.

*For more information, please go to [2017 WGQ Annual Plan](#), [July 25, 2017 WGQ BPS Agenda](#), [July 25, 2017 Draft Minutes](#), [R17003](#), [Proposed Motion for R17003](#) (as of July 18), [R17002](#), [LDC Work paper and Rationale Regarding R17002](#), [July 13, 2017 WGQ IR/Tech Agenda](#), [July 11, 2017 WGQ BPS Agenda](#), [Recommendation for R17002](#), [Request for Comments on R17002](#), [R17001](#), [R17001 Attachment 1](#), [R17001 Attachment 2](#), [Motion for R17001 Work Paper](#) and [Work paper for Request R17001 Submitted by TransCanada and Spectra](#).*

**NAESB and NERC Continuing Coordination:** To maintain lock step towards industry goals, NAESB and NERC staff continue to coordinate efforts during monthly conference calls. One frequent topic of discussion during the calls is related to the removal of the Purchasing-Selling Entity (PSE), Load Serving Entity (LSE), and Interchange Authority (IA) functional entities from the NERC Compliance Registry. During the August 15, 2017 WEQ Executive Committee meeting, the participants will consider a joint recommendation from the WEQ Coordinate Interchange Scheduling Subcommittee (CISS) and the WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS). In mid-July, the two subcommittees held a joint conference call to vote out modifications to the WEQ-004 Coordinate Interchange Business Practice Standards to address Standards Request R16008. Submitted by the WEQ leadership, R16008 seeks to address NERC requirements applicable to PSEs that are related to dynamic tagging and could have commercial applicability. One informal comment was submitted from Western Area Power Administration during the informal comment period on the modifications. A thirty-day formal comment period will conclude on August 9, 2017. To date, one formal comment has been submitted from North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation.

During a July 13, 2017 conference call, the WEQ Standards Review Subcommittee (SRS) concluded its annual review of the Draft NERC Reliability Standards Development Plan (RSDP). Any potential comments in response to the RSDP will be forwarded by the subcommittee to the Managing Committee, which will send the official response, if any, to NERC. All interested parties are welcome to attend the next WEQ SRS conference call scheduled for August 10, 2017.

Additionally, NERC and NAESB leadership continue to exchange notes related to demand response and energy efficiency, cybersecurity efforts, and the existing structure of the organizations. NERC and NAESB executive leadership meet periodically to evaluate the status of these efforts and any future developments which may require coordination.

*For more information, please go to [2017 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [R16008](#), [R16008 Request for Informal Comments](#), [Informal Comment Submitted by R. Vojdani, WAPA](#), [Modifications for R16008 Work Paper](#), [July 10, 2017 Joint WEQ CSS and WEQ BPS Agenda](#), [Request for Comments on R16008](#), [Comments Submitted by J. Lemire, NCEMC](#) and [Draft 2018-2020 NERC Reliability Standards Development Plan](#).*

## STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT

***Demand-Side Management and Energy Efficiency (DSM-EE) Update:*** Over the years, NAESB has been making great strides in the DSM-EE space. From the development of the Retail Customer Authorization Form to the creation of the NAESB Certification Program for Energy Efficiency Measurement and Verification Services or Products, NAESB members have been driven to stay ahead of industry trends.

In the same spirit, the NAESB membership ratified two DSM-EE recommendations on July 9, 2017 that created a new Retail Markets Quadrant (RMQ) book, Book 28 and further modified the newly created RMQ Book 27. In response to a 2017 annual plan item, the RMQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS) and DSM-EE Subcommittee jointly voted out a recommendation to create Book 28 – Self-Deployment of a Demand Response Program by a Demand Response Service Provider in a Registration Agent Model. The model business practices within Book 28 encompass a broad variety of interactions among Retail Customers, Distribution Companies, Demand Response Service Providers, and Registration Agents.

Earlier this year, on April 17, the NAESB membership ratified Book 27 – Enrollment, Drop and Account Information Change for Demand Response Programs in a Registration Agent Marketplace. Later, the need to fill a gap regarding interval and non-interval usage in Book 27 led to the creation of a new annual plan item, 2017 RMQ Annual Plan Item 6, that was jointly assigned to the RMQ BPS and DSM-EE Subcommittee. The resulting recommendation to fulfill the new annual plan item was ratified by the NAESB membership on July 9, 2017.

Both recommendations were approved by the subcommittees on April 25, 2017 and posted for a thirty-day formal industry comment period that concluded on May 26, 2017. No comments were submitted for either recommendation. On June 8, 2017, the RMQ Executive Committee adopted the recommendation via notational ballot. The next DSM-EE Subcommittee meeting will be announced by the NAESB office.

*For more information, please go to [2017 RMQ Annual Plan](#), [Recommendation for Book 27](#), [Attachment Book 27 Model Business Practices](#), [Recommendation for Book 28](#), [Attachment Book 28 New Model Business Practices](#), [Ratification Ballot](#), [Notational Ballot](#), [Notational Ballot Results](#) and [Request for Comments](#).*

#### ***Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms (eForms):***

In response to the FERC *Order Instituting Proceeding to Develop Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms* issued on April 16, 2015 ( Docket No. AD15-11-000), the WEQ/WGQ FERC Forms Subcommittee continues its efforts. As part of this order, FERC proposed the industry transition from Microsoft Visual FoxPro to the XML file format for the submittal of several forms. While citing the successful collaboration through NAESB during the electronic tariff (eTariff) filings project, the Commission proposed that the industry work through NAESB to develop the essential documentation.

Currently, FERC staff is working to complete Form 1 XML and XSD documents. Once completed, the WEQ/WGQ FERC Forms Subcommittee will review the documents, develop a data dictionary, and begin developing any related business practice standards. As most of the foundational work will have been resolved, the subcommittee anticipates that the work on the remaining forms will quickly fall into place after the work on Form 1 is completed. As always, NAESB meetings and conference calls are open to any interested party.

*For more information, please go to [2017 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [2017 WGO Annual Plan](#), [April 16, 2015 FERC Order Instituting Proceeding to Develop Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms](#), [May 1, 2015 Notice of Conference with NAESB](#), [May 29, 2015 Supplemental Notice of Conference with NAESB](#), [June 10, 2015 Technical Conference Transcript](#), [December 2, 2016 WGQ/WEQ FERC Forms Subcommittee Draft Minutes](#), [XML Developer Instructions Revised December 2, 2016](#), [Updated Form 1 Fields Business Rules Work Paper](#), [FERC Form 1](#), [NAESB eForms Subcommittee Topics Revised 11/8/16](#) and [July 16, 2015 FERC Notice of NAESB Meeting](#).*

#### ***Parallel Flow Visualization-Transmission Loading Relief (PFV-TLR):***

Recently, the chair of the IDC Steering Committee indicated that, due to an unexpected delay in the software development, the anticipated start date for the field trial has been postponed. As you may remember, the Interchange Distribution Calculator (IDC) Steering Committee and the IDC Working Group (IDC WG) are working under the umbrella of the Eastern Interconnection Data Sharing Network (EIDSN) to manage the IDC activities related to the eighteen-month PFV field trial. Once the PFV field trial begins, NAESB will coordinate with NERC and the EIDSN to submit a status report to update the Commission on the new timeline.

Approved by the WEQ Executive Committee in February of 2015, the PFV-related standards modifications are being held in abeyance to allow for a field trial to be conducted. As reported in the October 2016 PFV Status Report to the FERC, NAESB will continue to collaborate with NERC, the IDC Steering Committee, and the IDC WG to achieve the objectives of the PFV efforts. By enabling real-time data to the IDC, the PFV standards development effort will further the congestion management process of the Eastern Interconnection by enhancing the visibility of the source and magnitude of parallel interchange flows in the bulk electric system.

*For more information, please go to [2017 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [October 17, 2016 PFV Status report to FERC](#), [January 29, 2016 PFV Status Report to FERC](#), [March 25, 2015 NAESB PFV Report to FERC](#), [January 28, 2015 PFV Status Report to FERC](#), [July 11, 2014 PFV Status Report to FERC](#), [Recommendation approved by the NAESB WEQ Executive Committee on February 24, 2015 to initiate the full staffing process \(Redline\)](#) and [February 24, 2015 WEQ Executive Committee Meeting Notes](#).*

STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT (continued)

**WEQ Open Access Same-time Information Systems (OASIS) Subcommittee:** In October, the WEQ Executive Committee will consider the WEQ OASIS recommendation for 2017 WEQ Annual Plan Item Nos. 2.a.i.1 and 5.a – Short-Term Firm Preemption and Competition (OATT Section 13.2 and 14.2); Add language to WEQ-001-4 Online Negotiation and Confirmation process to clarify Table 4-3. Unanimously voted out of the WEQ OASIS Subcommittee in June, the recommendation was posted for a 45-day formal comment period that concluded on August 4, 2017. During the comment period, the NAESB office received a total of ten comments from North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, Bonneville Power Administration, Southern Company, Duke Energy, Arizona Public Service Company, OATI, PJM, and the ISO/RTO Council’s Standards Review Committee. The WEQ OASIS Subcommittee will now focus its efforts on reviewing the comments received and developing a set of late comments to submit to the Executive Committee.

NAESB would like to thank the past and present co-chairs of the subcommittee for their subcommittee leadership throughout the standards development effort – JT Wood, Alan Pritchard, Paul Sorenson, Ken Quimby, and Matt Schingle. In order to facilitate formal comments on the recommendation, the WEQ OASIS co-chairs presented two review sessions on July 11, 2017 and July 26, 2017. During the calls, the co-chairs reviewed and discussed the recommendation and fielded questions from participants.

Beginning in January of 2012, the efforts to develop the short-term preemption and competition recommendation have now spanned 94 meetings totaling over 173 days of meetings. Additionally, the participants of the subcommittee spent countless hours on individual assignments and preparation for each meeting. The recommendation modifies WEQ-000, WEQ-001, WEQ-002, and WEQ-013 to support FERC Order No. 890 and NAESB Standards Requests R05019 and R09003.

On the heels of completing the short-term preemption and competition recommendation, in mid-July, the WEQ OASIS Subcommittee voted out a recommendation to address 2017 WEQ Annual Plan Item 1.e.iii/R16010 – Review and modify as necessary WEQ-001, WEQ-002, WEQ-003, and WEQ-013 to address Line Items 2 through 17 from the WEQ Standards Review Subcommittee (SRS) Assignment Document. As a background, Standards Request R16010 was submitted by MISO and lists action items that culminate in a detailed review of the NAESB Business Practice Standards and specifications in response to previous changes to the ownership of the Electric Industry Registry (EIR), revisions to the NERC Committee structure, and changes to the NERC Rules of Procedure. R16010 was assigned to the WEQ SRS with direction from the WEQ Executive Committee that the WEQ SRS suggest which subcommittees should develop the recommendations on the list. The subject of the OASIS recommendation, 2017 WEQ Annual Plan Item 1.e.iii, was one of several annual plan items created in response to R16010. The recommendation has been posted for a thirty-day formal industry comment period that will close on August 21, 2017.

*For more information, please go to [2017 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [FERC Order No. 890](#), [FERC Order No. 890-A](#), [FERC Order No. 890-B](#), [R05019](#), [R09003](#), [Recommendation for 2016 WEQ Annual Plan Item Nos. 2.a.i.1/and 5.a/R05019/R09003](#), [June 20-22, 2017 WEQ OASIS Draft Minutes](#), [Request for Comments Due August 4, 2017](#), [Comments Submitted by R. Kelley, Bonneville Power Administration](#), [Addendum to Comments Submitted by R. Kelley, Bonneville Power Administration](#), [Comments Submitted by J. Lemire, NCEMC](#), [Comments Submitted by C. Bigelow, Arizona Public Service Company](#), [Comments Submitted by P. Sorenson, OATI](#), [Comments Submitted by A. Pritchard, Duke Energy](#), [Redline Recommendation Comments Submitted by A. Pritchard, Duke Energy](#), [Comments Submitted by JT Wood, Southern Company](#), [Comments Submitted by R. Brown, PJM](#), [Comments Submitted by the ISO/RTO Council's Standards Review Committee](#), [Request for Informal Comments, June 20-22, 2017 WEQ OASIS Final Minutes, July 18-20 WEQ OASIS Agenda](#), [R16010](#), [Request for Comments on 2017 WEQ Annual Plan Item 1.e.iii/R16010](#), [Recommendation on 2017 WEQ Annual Plan Item 1.e.iii/R16010](#) and [WEQ SRS Assignment Document](#).*

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

**NAESB New Members**

**Wholesale Gas Quadrant (Segment):**

- Aquilon Energy Services, Inc. (Services)
- Cascade Natural Gas Corporation (LDC)
- DTE Gas Company (LDC)
- Enercross LLC (Services)
- Power Authority of The State of New York (End Users)
- Sylvia Munson - Consultant (Services)

**Wholesale Electric Quadrant (Segment):**

- Enbridge (U.S.) Inc. (Transmission)
- MCG Energy Solutions (Technology & Services)
- Softsmiths, Inc. (Technology & Services)

STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT (continued)

**Cybersecurity:** Back in mid-July, the WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee (CSS) held a conference call to begin discussion on two annually recurring items listed on the 2017 WEQ Annual Plan. In upcoming meetings, as part of 2017 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.a, the subcommittee will continue to review both the WEQ-012 Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Business Practice Standards and the accreditation requirements for Authorized Certification Authorities to determine whether modifications are needed to meet market conditions.

Under the second annual plan item, 2017 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.b, the WEQ CSS have undertaken an evaluation of the current NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Reliability Standards and any other cybersecurity-related activities within FERC and NERC. Additionally, the review will include the May 11, 2017 Executive Order, *Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure*. Subsequent to the review, the WEQ CSS will modify the WEQ Business Practice Standards, if necessary. The next WEQ CSS meeting will be announced by the NAESB office.

*For more information, please go to [2017 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [Presidential Executive Order on Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure, December 8, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes](#), [Approved Revisions to the ACA Process Document](#), [WEQ-012 PKI Business Practice Standards](#), [Application for NAESB Certification Program for Accredited Certification Authorities](#), [Board Certification Committee Authorized Certification Authority Process](#), [NAESB Accreditation Requirements for Authorized Certification Authorities](#), [List of Authorized Certification Authorities](#) and [FERC Notice of Inquiry](#).*



**Smart Grid Update:** Throughout 2017, the Green Button Alliance (GBA) and NAESB have continued to strengthen working ties. Furthering its goal of promoting the adoption of the Green Button by utilities, the GBA has launched the Green Button Download My Data Testing and Certification Program. As you know, the NAESB REQ.21 Energy Service Provider Interface (ESPI) Model Business Practices stand as the critical foundation for the Green Button and all GBA certification candidates who are not NAESB members are required to purchase the copyrighted standard.

ESPI is also garnering attention outside the United States. Recently, the Ontario Ministry of Energy contacted NAESB to begin informal conversations regarding the further expansion of the Green Button in their jurisdiction. The Ontario Ministry of Energy has previously utilized ESPI within reference architecture guidance for Green Button implementation in its jurisdiction. In the past years, NAESB has helped facilitate the participation of over seventy-seven Ontarian utility companies in the Ontario Green Button program.

Launched in 2012, the Green Button Initiative is a response to a White House call to action that challenges utilities to provide their customers with easy and secure access to their energy usage data via a “Green Button” on their websites. The Green Button Initiative now supports more than 150 service providers and utilities that provide more than 60 million U.S. households, altogether 100 million people, access to their own Green Button energy data.

*For more information, please go to [2017 RMO Annual Plan](#), [REQ.21 ESPI Model Business Practices](#), [Green Button Alliance Page](#), [NARUC Resolution on Smart Grid Principles](#) and [Green Button Page](#).*



**Update on the Electric Industry Registry (EIR) and e-Tagging Specification:** On May 2, 2017, the EIR made available changes to the registration process for the Market Operator role. The changes assist with the full implementation of the Market Operator role as envisioned when the registry transitioned from the NERC Transmission System Information Network (TSIN) to the NAESB EIR. Currently, Balancing Authorities and Transmission Service Providers that also act as a Market Operator indicate such designations through the use of a check-box, a legacy item retained during the transition from the NERC TSIN. The modifications to the registration process will help implement the Market Operator as its own role within the EIR, and the separation of Market Operator functionalities from other roles will provide clarity between electronic Tagging (e-Tag) changes made for market purposes and those made for reliability purposes. All parties that act as a Market Operator should update their registration information or register for the role prior to the implementation of the NAESB e-Tag Functional Specification Version 1.8.3, currently scheduled for October 10, 2017.

Managed by NAESB, the EIR tool serves as the central repository for information utilized by the electric industry. OATI is the system administrator for the EIR and operates the tool as OATI WebRegistry.

On July 14, 2017, the WEQ CISS met to discuss the results of the e-Tag Specification Version 1.8.3 interoperability testing, held on July 11 and July 13. Currently, the proposed implementation date for Version 1.8.3 is October 10, 2017 Midnight CST (1:00 AM Central Prevailing Time) and the proposed retirement date for Version 1.8.2 is Midnight CST on November 7, 2017. The next WEQ CISS conference call is scheduled for August 22, 2017.

*For more information, please go to [2017 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [January 10, 2017 NAESB Routine Maintenance Announcement](#), [November 18, 2016 NAESB Press Release](#), [NAESB WEQ Electronic Tagging Functional Specification, Version 1.8.3 \(as approved by the WEQ Executive Committee\)](#) and [July 14, 2017 WEQ CISS Agenda](#).*

**NAESB Board Committees Update:** As mentioned in a previous section of this newsletter, the September 7, 2017 NAESB Board of Directors meeting will be held at a new location – the Marriot Marquis Downtown Hotel in Houston, Texas. The board meeting will include the annual Meeting of the Members and Strategic Session of the organization. As always, the NAESB Leadership meetings will take place a day before the board meeting on September 6, 2017.

During its July meeting, the Parliamentary Committee approved a recommendation to modify the NAESB Certificate of Incorporation and the NAESB Bylaws to detail a process for weighted simple majority voting by the Board of Directors.

Additionally, the April Board Revenue Committee conference call focused on a review of the proposed publication cycle of the NAESB standards, the communications activities underway at NAESB, as well as a discussion on outreach to the retail markets. Additional agenda items included the review of the membership report, the status of Executive Committee and Board vacancies, and the membership prospect list, among other items.

For more information, please go to [2017 RMQ Annual Plan](#), [2017 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [2017 WGO Annual Plan](#), [April 19, 2017 Board Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Task Force Agenda](#), [Draft Board Strategic Notes on Strategy and Certification Programs](#), [Revised Board Strategy Metrics White Paper \(April 2017\)](#), [April 19, 2017 Parliamentary Committee Notes](#), [May 19, 2017 Parliamentary Committee Draft Minutes](#), [April 19, 2017 Board Revenue Agenda](#), [NAESB Operating Practices](#), [NAESB Bylaws](#) and [NAESB Certificate of Incorporation](#).

**Filings:** Through correspondence dated April 12, 2017, Acting FERC Chairman LaFleur thanked NAESB and its industry stakeholders for the March 30, 2017 report to FERC concerning the NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization (GEH) efforts in response to FERC Order No. 809. Acting Chairman LaFleur added that “[e]ven though consensus could not be achieved to develop standards, I believe the record developed and the discussions among the industry members will assist the Commission in its considerations, as well as help inform continuing industry-initiated efforts to improve the integration of the gas and electric industries, an issue of critical importance to both industries.” On March 30, 2017, NAESB submitted the *NAESB Status Report for Submittal Concerning FERC Order No. 809, Coordination of the Scheduling Processes of Interstate National Gas Pipelines and Public Utilities* (Docket No, RM14-2-000). As you may recall, in Paragraph 107 of FERC Order No. 809, the Commission requested that the “gas and electric industries, through NAESB, explore the potential for faster, computerized scheduling when shippers and confirming parties all submit electronic nominations and confirmations, including a streamlined confirmation process if necessary.” In his October 18, 2016 letter to NAESB, Former FERC Chairman Bay encouraged “NAESB to complete by March 31, 2017 the development of standards or modification to existing standards as needed to support the request of the Commission and to provide opportunities for faster and more frequent scheduling.” The subsequent March 30, 2017 NAESB report informed the Commission of the actions taken by NAESB on the GEH standards development effort.

A separate filing, *NAESB Status Report on the Reservation of WEQ-006 Manual Time Error Correction Business Practice Standards*, was submitted to the Commission on March 27, 2017 in Docket Nos. RM05-5-000 and RD17-1-000. The report informed the Commission that NAESB has reserved the business practice standards within WEQ-006 Manual Time Error Correction. The business practice standards in WEQ-006 are complementary to the NERC BAL-004-0 Time Error Correction Reliability Standards, recently approved to be retired by FERC in a January 18, 2017 FERC Letter Order. The reservation of the standards will be reflected in the next publication of the NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards, Version 003.2, tentatively scheduled for release later this year.

For more information, please go to [2017 WGO Annual Plan](#), [2017 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [2017 RMQ Annual Plan](#), [April 12, 2017 Letter from Acting Chairman LaFleur](#), [April 16, 2015 FERC Order No 809](#), [March 30, 2017 NAESB Report to FERC](#), [December 20, 2016 NAESB Status Report to the Commission Concerning FERC Order No. 809](#), [October 18, 2016 Correspondence to Rae McQuade from Chairman Bay Regarding Gas-Electric Coordination Standards Development](#), [October 26, 2016 Correspondence from Rae McQuade to Chairman Bay regarding Gas-Electric Coordination Standards Development](#), [October 17, 2016 NAESB Status Report to the Commission Concerning FERC Order No. 809](#), [July 29, 2016 NAESB Status Report Concerning FERC Order No. 809](#) and [FERC Letter Order on the NERC Reliability Standard BAL-004-0](#).

**NAESB Quadrant/Segment Membership Analysis:**

<b>Wholesale Gas Quadrant</b>	<b>128 Members</b>
End Users Segment	15
Distributors/LDC Segment	24
Pipelines Segment	41
Producers Segment	13
Services Segment	35
<b>Retail Markets Quadrant</b>	<b>39 Members</b>
Retail Electric End Users/Public Agencies Segment	16
Retail Gas Market Interests Segment	9
Retail Electric Utilities Segment	7
Retail Electric Service Providers/Suppliers Segment	7
<b>Wholesale Electric Quadrant</b>	<b>135 Members</b>
End Users Segment	11
Distributors Segment	19
Transmission Segment	43
Generation Segment	22
Marketers/Brokers Segment	22
Non Specified	1
Independent Grid Operators/Planners Segment	8
Technology & Services Segment	9
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>302 Members</b>

**Sandia National Laboratories:** During the April 6, 2017 NAESB Board of Directors meeting, it was announced that Sandia National Laboratories, with funding from the U.S. Department of Energy, would move forward with conducting a surety assessment on the NAESB Business Practice Standards.

In the past, each assessment has worked much like an audit, where the standards were reviewed, observations made, and findings along with recommended actions were provided. The last surety assessment took place in 2007 and the recommended actions focused on cybersecurity, scalability, performance, data and transactional integrity, and confidentiality. The assessments also provided critical success factors and metrics of importance that would support the organization going forward as new standards were developed and existing standards were modified. In response to each assessment, NAESB has implemented numerous changes and refinements to the standards.

Since April, Sandia National Laboratories has been working with NAESB staff to establish a scope for the surety assessment which will include the WGQ and RMQ Internet Electronic Transport and Electronic Delivery Mechanism Business Practice Standards, the WEQ PKI Business Practice Standards and other documentation comprising the NAESB Certification Program for Accredited Certification Authorities. The surety assessment could potentially expand to other standards as well. The scheduled end date for the assessment is February 18, 2018.

As these independent surety assessments are crucial to the credibility of NAESB work products and the safety of the electronic transactions that use NAESB standards, NAESB appreciates the support of both the DoE and Sandia National Laboratories to ensure that the NAESB Business Practice Standards reflect the necessary transactions for the industry.

For more information, please go to [2017 WGQ Annual Plan](#), [2017 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [2017 RMQ Annual Plan](#).

**NAESB Webcast Courses:** On July 18, NAESB presented the *WGQ Business Practice Standards: Updates and Changes Version 3.0 Web Cast Course*. As you may remember, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC” or “Commission”) issued FERC Order No. 587-W, *Standards for Business Practices of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines; Coordination of the Scheduling Processes of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines and Public Utilities* in Docket Nos. RM96-1-038 and RM14-2-003 on October 16, 2015. The Order amends the Commission’s regulations to incorporate by reference, with certain exceptions, Version 3.0 of the NAESB WGQ Business Practice Standards.

Designed to provide an overview of the updates and changes made in Version 3.0, the agenda for the web course included a review of the new standards and modifications to existing standards since the publication of Version 2.0 as well as an overview of the new nomination and scheduling timelines for coordination between the natural gas and electric industries (Gas-Electric Harmonization). While concluding with a review of modifications made to the technical documentation and data sets for Version 3.0, the web course also summarized the minor corrections that have been applied since Version 2.0 was released. NAESB web courses are open to all NAESB members and nonmembers. Those who are responsible for using or implementing the standards, or who comment on the standards or ensure compliance with the standards are urged to attend future sessions.

For more information, please go to [Brochure for WGQ Business Practice Standards: Updates and Changes Version 3.0 Web Cast Course](#), [FERC Order No. 587-W](#) and [NAESB Primers and Training Courses Page](#).

**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.

For more information, please go to [Copyright](#), [NAESB Materials Order Form](#) or contact Denise Rager ([drager@naesb.org](mailto:drager@naesb.org)) for additional information.