

NAESB Bulletin

August - October 2018 Volume 11, Issue 2

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2018 Calendar:

December

- 12/3 - Board Critical Infrastructure Committee Conf. Call
- 12/6 - NAESB Update Conf. Call
- 12/7 - Joint WEQ OASIS and WEQ BPS Conf. Call
- 12/10 - WGQ BPS Conf. Call
- 12/11-12 - WEQ IR/Technical Meeting
- 12/11 - WEQ CISS Conf. Call
- 12/12 - Leadership Meeting (Houston, TX)
- 12/12 - NAESB Board Reception & Dinner with Guest Speaker (Houston, TX)
- 12/13 - NAESB Board of Directors Meeting (Houston, TX)
- 12/24 - Holiday - Day before Christmas (NAESB Closed)
- 12/25 - Holiday - Christmas Day (NAESB Closed)

2019 Leadership Calendar:

- 2/9 - Advisory Council Meeting (Washington, DC)
- 3/26 - WEQ Executive Committee Meeting (Tentative Phoenix, AZ)
- 3/27 - Retail Executive Committee Conf. Call
- 3/28 - WGQ Executive Committee Meeting (Tentative Phoenix, AZ)
- 4/10 - NAESB Board Reception & Dinner with Guest Speaker (Houston, TX)
- 4/11 - Board of Directors Meeting (Houston, TX)
- 9/4 - NAESB Board Reception & Dinner with Guest Speaker (Houston, TX)
- 9/5 - Board of Directors, Meeting of the Members and Strategic Session (Houston, TX)
- 10/15 - WEQ Executive Committee Meeting (Richmond, VA)
- 10/16 - Retail Executive Committee Conf. Call
- 10/17 - WGQ Executive Committee Meeting (Richmond, VA)
- 12/11 - NAESB Board Reception & Dinner with Guest Speaker (Houston, TX)
- 12/12 - Board of Directors Meeting (Houston, TX)

NAESB and NERC Continuing Coordination: In order to support the wholesale electric market effectively, the staffs of NAESB and NERC continue to coordinate efforts during monthly conference calls and frequent staff communications. One frequent topic of discussion during the calls is NERC Project 2018-03, the Standards Efficiency Review Retirements. The project proposes to retire portions of several NERC Reliability Standards, including the Resource and Demand Balancing (BAL), Interchange Scheduling and Coordination (INT), and Modeling, Data, and Analysis (MOD) Reliability Standards. After reviewing the scope of the project, the WEQ Standards Review Subcommittee (SRS) has identified several standards as areas for which additional coordination between NERC and NAESB may be needed. NAESB and NERC have agreed to follow the coordination process used for past efforts, such as Time Error Correction and the MOD standards development project. NAESB staff will continue to discuss these activities with NERC staff and, along with the WEQ SRS, monitor the progress of the SER drafting team.

On October 4, 2018, FERC issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR), *Standards for Business Practices and Communication Protocols for Public Utilities*, proposing to remove its incorporation by reference of the WEQ-006 Time Error Correction Business Practice Standards. These standards complement a related NERC Reliability Standard and define the commercial methods used for reducing time error. In 2016, NERC submitted a standard request to NAESB proposing that NAESB reserve the WEQ-006 standards to correspond with NERC efforts to retire the related reliability standard. To maintain coordination with the NERC Reliability Standards, Version 003.2 of the NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards reserved the WEQ-006 Manual Time Error Correction Business Practice Standards.

In a parallel effort, FERC approved the retirement of the NERC Time Error Correction Reliability Standard (BAL-004-0) in a Letter Order issued on January 18, 2017 in Docket No. RD17-1-000.

As discussed in the Parallel Flow Visualization section of this newsletter, NAESB filed a Parallel Flow Visualization status report on November 1, 2018 in Docket No. EL14-82-000. The filing emphasized the continuous coordination efforts between NAESB, NERC, and EIDSN, Inc.

For more information, please go to [2018 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [October 4, 2018 FERC NOPR](#), [January 18, 2017 FERC Letter Order](#), [October 26, 2015 NAESB Filing for WEQ Version 003.1](#), [July 21, 2016 FERC NOPR on WEQ Version 003.1](#), [December 8, 2017 NAESB Filing for WEQ Version 003.2](#), and

[November 1, 2018 NAESB Parallel Flow Visualization Status Report](#).



Sandia National Laboratories: On December 3, 2018, the Board Critical Infrastructure Committee (Board CIC) will hold a conference call to review a draft iteration of the surety assessment report that Sandia National Laboratories will provide in late November.

Sponsored by the Department of Energy and conducted by Sandia National Laboratories, the surety assessment has several goals: (1) assess the NAESB Certification Program for Accredited Certification Authorities, including the WEQ-012 Public Key Infrastructure Standards, the NAESB Accreditation Requirements for Authorized Certificate Authorities, and the Authorized Certification Authority Process; (2) assess the WGQ and RMQ Internet Electronic Transport and Electronic Delivery Mechanism Standards; (3) assess the WEQ OASIS Suite of Business Practice Standards; and (4) conduct a high-level dependency analysis between the gas and electric markets.

Sandia National Laboratories is currently working on revisions to the report to address the written feedback provided by the Board CIC in response to the second draft of the report. That feedback included suggestions that the surety assessment report be forward-thinking and vulnerability-based, evaluating each requirement within the standards to determine any potential risk and recommend ways to mitigate such risk. This would be consistent with the approach Sandia National Laboratories utilized to conduct the previous surety assessment on the NAESB standards in 2006.

Once the final version of the report is received, NAESB will evaluate the recommendations and determine how to move forward with any needed standards development efforts. As indicated above, NAESB has included items on each quadrant's 2019 annual plan to consider standards development as a result of the surety assessment report.

For more information, please go to [Board CIC Members Roster](#), [2018 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [2018 RMO Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 RMO Annual Plan](#), [2018 WGQ Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 WGQ Annual Plan](#), [December 3, 2018 Board Critical Infrastructure Committee Agenda](#), [Initial Draft Sandia Surety Assessment Report](#), [February Board CIC Chair's Work Paper](#), [February Board CIC Feedback to Sandia](#), [June 18, 2018 Board CIC Agenda](#), [June 18, 2018 Board CIC Meeting Notes](#), [Updated Draft Sandia Surety Assessment Report](#), [June Board CIC Chair's Work Paper](#), [July 12, 2018 Board CIC Agenda](#), [July Board CIC Draft Feedback to Sandia](#), and [July Board CIC Chair's Work Paper](#).

Filings: On November 1, 2018, NAESB filed a Parallel Flow Visualization (PFV) status report with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in Docket No. EL14-82-000. While updating the Commission on the ongoing and future coordination efforts between NAESB, NERC, and EIDSN, Inc. the status report also includes information from EIDSN, Inc. concerning the preliminary data from the PFV field trial.

On October 4, 2018, FERC issued a Notice of Proposed Rule-making (NOPR), *Standards for Business Practices and Communication Protocols for Public Utilities*, proposing to remove its incorporation by reference of the WEQ-006 Time Error Correction Business Practice Standards. In order to maintain harmonization with the NERC reliability standards, NAESB reserved WEQ-006 in Version 003.2 of its WEQ standards. NAESB completed standards development activities related to the effort in March of 2017 and submitted its report to the Commission on March 27, 2017. As previously noted, the NAESB WEQ Version 003.1 and WEQ Version 003.2 Business Practice Standards are currently pending review by the Commission.

For more information, please go to [2018 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [2018 RMQ Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 RMQ Annual Plan](#), [2018 WGO Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 WGO Annual Plan](#), [FERC Order No. 587-Y, August 21, 2018 FERC NOPR](#), [September 29, 2017 NAESB Report to FERC for WGO Version 3.1](#), [November 1, 2018 NAESB Parallel Flow Visualization Status Report](#), [March 27, 2018 NAESB Time Error Correction Report](#), [October 4, 2018 FERC NOPR](#), [October 26, 2015 NAESB Filing for WEQ Version 003.1](#), [July 21, 2016 FERC NOPR on WEQ Version 003.1](#), and [December 8, 2017 NAESB Filing for WEQ Version 003.2](#).



2019 Annual Plan Subcommittee Calls: Looking ahead to the December 13, 2018 meeting, the Board of Directors will consider each quadrant’s proposed annual plans for 2019. Drafted during the early October Annual Plan Subcommittee conference calls and approved during the October Executive Committee meetings, the 2019 WEQ, WGQ, and RMQ Annual Plans contain items addressing blockchain, the Sandia National Laboratories Surety Assessment, and other industry priorities.

On the Proposed 2019 WEQ Annual Plan, three new items were added to improve the current operation of the wholesale electric market and to maintain standards for OASIS and electronic scheduling – 2019 WEQ Annual Plan Items 3.f, 3.g, and 3.h. Additionally, two new annual plan items were added to develop distributed ledger technology business practice standards for power trade events to streamline the power accounting close cycle and to improve/replace the current manual Renewable Energy Certificate processes for utility financial and/or sustainability accounting/reporting. The RMQ and WEQ will work in tandem regarding the Renewable Energy Certificates effort as the scope is expected to affect both quadrants. As such, an identical item was added to the 2019 RMQ Annual Plan.

In the WGQ, two standards requests were placed on the 2019 WGQ Annual Plan. Standards Request R17008 requests the development of a standard for the exchange of transportation invoice information using XML and Standards Request R18007

asks that NAESB develop standards concerning blockchain for natural gas trade events.

Additionally, each quadrant moved items from its provisional to its active annual plan in order to conduct a review of the Sandia National Laboratories Surety Assessment Report and develop standards if needed. The final surety assessment report is scheduled to be completed by the end of this year.

For more information, please go to [Proposed 2019 WEQ Annual Plan as revised by the WEQ Executive Committee](#), [Proposed 2019 RMQ Annual Plan as Revised by the RMQ Executive Committee](#), [Proposed 2019 WGO Annual Plan as revised by the WGO Executive Committee](#), [2018 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [2018 RMQ Annual Plan](#), and [2018 WGO Annual Plan](#).

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Update on the Electric Industry Registry (EIR): On October 29, 2018 modifications were applied to the NAESB EIR user interface to better reflect the roles of NAESB and the system administrator regarding ownership and management of the tool. Although the changes did not impact system functionality, the registry homepage, login page, and new user page as well as the registry documentation have been modified through this effort. Managed by NAESB, the EIR serves as the central repository for information utilized by the electric industry.

In August, notice was provided to the industry announcing that SSL.com became certified as a NAESB Authorized Certification Authority (ACA) and is now registered in the NAESB EIR as a PKICA. Per the NAESB ACA Process, NAESB provides notice to the industry regarding the certification of a new ACA through the notice functionality within the NAESB EIR prior to the date entities must accept certificates issued by the ACA.

This year, recommendations for two Enhancement Requests, submitted by Southwest Power Pool, have been developed by the WEQ Coordinate Interchange Scheduling Subcommittee (WEQ CISS). EIR Enhancement Request ER18001 requested modifications to EIR to modify the procedure for the EIR subscription renewal process. EIR Enhancement Request ER18002 requested modifications to the pseudo-tie registration process to allow for the ability to identify whether a pseudo-tie is serving load or generation. Per NERC INT-004-3.1, pseudo-ties must be registered in the NAESB EIR. Per the EIR Enhancement Request Process, NAESB will work with the system administrator to obtain any needed documentation and, subsequently forward the relevant documents to the NAESB Managing Committee for a determination.

For more information, please go to [2018 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [EIR Page](#), [October 25, 2018 EIR Announcement](#), [September 4, 2018 EIR Publication Announcement](#), [August 1, 2018 Announcement of SSL.com](#), [WEQ EIR Enhancement Requests Page](#), [ER18001](#), and [ER18002](#).

STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT

Blockchain Standards Development: In February, the NAESB Advisory Council recommended that NAESB consider standards development to support the potential integration of blockchain technology in energy transactions. On the heels of that recommendation, Standards Request R18007 was submitted to NAESB from Tennessee Valley Authority, American Electric Power Service, Ad-joint Inc., Big Data Energy Services, Pariveda, and JKM Energy & Environmental Consulting. R18007 requested that NAESB consider the development of a standard digital representation of natural gas trade events, consistent with the NAESB Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas, in order to capitalize on smart contracts and distributed ledger technologies. After R18007 was triaged to the Wholesale Gas Quadrant (WGQ) Executive Committee and ultimately assigned jointly to the WGQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS), the Contracts Subcommittee, and the Electronic Delivery Mechanisms Subcommittee, the first meeting to address the standards request took place on October 24, 2018. That meeting was announced to the NAESB membership as usual, but also to industry at large through a September press release. The agenda for the meeting included two presentations on the basics of blockchain delivered by the requesters of R18007 and ConocoPhillips, representing the Oil & Gas Operator Blockchain Forum. On November 16, the subcommittees will hold a follow up conference call to determine the scope of the effort.

Also, during the development of the 2019 quadrant annual plans, a new item was proposed for inclusion on the 2019 RMQ and WEQ Annual Plans to consider blockchain related standards development in support of the manual Renewable Energy Certificate accounting processes. If approved by the Board of Directors in December, the annual plan item will be jointly assigned to the RMQ and the Wholesale Electric Quadrant (WEQ). Additionally, the WEQ Executive Committee has also proposed the addition of an item to the 2019 WEQ Annual Plan to review and potentially develop distributed ledger technology, or blockchain, standards to support streamlining the power accounting close cycle. Per the NAESB process, the Board of Directors will review all three proposed annual plans, including the described blockchain related standards development items, for adoption during its December meeting.

For more information, please go to [NAESB Advisory Council Members, February 10, 2018 Advisory Council Notes](#), [Standards Request R18007, September 20, 2018 Blockchain Press Release](#), [October 24, 2018 WGQ BPS, Contracts, and EDM Draft Meeting Minutes, November 16, 2018 WGQ BPS, Contracts, and EDM Meeting Agenda](#), [Presentation from R18007 Requesters, Presentation from ConocoPhillips on Blockchain, October 4, 2018 Annual Plan Subcommittee Meeting Agendas](#), [Proposed 2019 RMQ Annual Plan](#), [2019 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [2019 WGQ Annual Plan](#), and [December 13, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting Announcement](#).

Parallel Flow Visualization-Transmission Loading Relief: On November 1, 2018, NAESB filed a status report with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) concerning the Parallel Flow Visualization (PFV) effort in Docket No. EL14-82-000. Drafted in coordination with NERC and the EIDSN, Inc., previously the Eastern Interconnect Data Sharing Network, the NAESB report provides an update on the status of the coordination activities and new information concerning the PFV field trial currently underway by the EIDSN.

In September, NAESB received a PFV Metrics Report drafted by EIDSN that contained a preliminary analysis of data produced as part of the PFV field trial. As indicated by EIDSN, the PFV enhanced congestion management process appears to represent an improvement in the accuracy of the congestion management procedures for the Eastern Interconnection.

PFV is an enhanced congestion management process being tested within the Eastern Interconnection. The process seeks to improve upon the current congestion management process through the use of real-time data submitted to the Interchange Distribution Calculator (IDC), a tool that assists reliability coordinators in the implementation of the NERC Reliability Standards and the NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards related to the Transmission Loading Relief Procedure.

As indicated in the November 1 status report, the PFV field trial began on September 28, 2017 and is expected to last eighteen months through March 2019. In 2014, the WEQ Executive Committee announced that the NAESB full-staffing process would be utilized for the PFV project – with the relevant WEQ standards held in abeyance until the end of the field trial. Upon conclusion of the field trial, EIDSN reports regarding the commercial and reliability metrics will be reviewed by the WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS) and the NERC Operating Reliability Subcommittee. After evaluating the metrics, the WEQ BPS will make a recommendation to the WEQ Executive Committee to consider any changes to the PFV-related WEQ Business Practice Standards that are determined to be necessary to support the results of the test. If standards changes are adopted, the standard modifications will be sent to NAESB WEQ membership for ratification. As emphasized to the FERC in this and previous PFV status reports, coordination between NAESB staff, NERC, and the EIDSN will remain essential as the project moves forward.

For more information, please go to [November 1, 2018 NAESB PFV Status Report to FERC](#), [2018 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [PFV Metrics Report](#), [October 2, 2017 PFV Status Report to FERC](#), [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: With a completion date set in the first quarter of 2019, the WEQ OASIS Subcommittee is working with the WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee on the final standards development effort related to the FERC Order No. 890 series – 2018 WEQ Annual Plan Item 2.a.i.1. This effort addresses Paragraph 1627 of the order and concerns the posting of additional information on OASIS regarding firm transmission curtailments. During its October 30 meeting, the subcommittee created seven individual assignments to expedite the work on the annual plan item. The item will be revisited during the December 7, 2018 joint WEQ OASIS and WEQ BPS conference call.

On November 15, 2018, the NAESB WEQ membership ratified the recommendation for 2018 WEQ Annual Plan Item 3.e. Approved during the October 9, 2018 WEQ Executive Committee meeting, the recommendation developed new OASIS Business Practice Standards to ensure that reservation capacity that is assigned to untagged pseudo-ties is preserved for that purpose. Developed over the course of nine multiday OASIS Subcommittee meetings, the recommendation modifies WEQ-000, WEQ-001, WEQ-002, WEQ-003, and WEQ-013. A thirty day formal industry comment period concluded on September 24, 2018 with the submission of eleven comments, including the late comments submitted by the WEQ OASIS Subcommittee.

Additionally, on September 24, 2018, the NAESB membership ratified the recommendation in support of 2018 WEQ Annual Plan Item 3.b – Evaluate the ability to define specific lists to be submitted for the query/response in the OASIS template format and develop new standards/modifications as needed. Approved by the WEQ Executive Committee during its August 21, 2018 meeting, the standards were developed by the WEQ OASIS Subcommittee during the course of three meetings and modify WEQ-002 and WEQ-003 to provide the flexibility to specify a list of Transmission Service requests or reservations to be returned in a single query response. Two formal comments were received during the thirty day comment period from Southern Company and, jointly, Southwest Power Pool and MISO.

During the upcoming November 27-29, 2018 WEQ OASIS meeting hosted by Southern Company in Birmingham, AL, the subcommittee will continue to work on several remaining annual plan items from the 2018 Annual Plan that improve the current operation of the wholesale electric market. These annual plan items address OASIS requirements to use EIR data, new notifications related to rollover rights renewal deadlines, modifications to the Network Integration Transmission Service (NITS) related standards, and documentation related to the coordination of partial path reservations. As always, the WEQ OASIS Subcommittee meetings and conference calls are open to all interested parties.

For more information, please go to [2018 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [FERC Order No. 890, October 30, 2018 WEQ OASIS Subcommittee Meeting Agenda](#), [November 27-29, 2018 WEQ OASIS Subcommittee Agenda](#), [December 7, 2018 WEQ OASIS Subcommittee Agenda](#), [October 9, 2018 WEQ Executive Committee Meeting Agenda](#).

[Recommendation for 2018 WEQ Annual Plan Item 3.e](#), [Request for Comments on 2018 WEQ Annual Plan Item 3.e](#), [Comments Submitted by J. Manning, NCEMC](#), [Comments Submitted by R. Kelley, BPA](#), [Comments Submitted by R. Brown, PJM](#), [Comments Submitted by the ISO/RTO Council's Standards Review Committee](#), [Comments Submitted by G. Campoli, NYISO](#), [Late Comments Submitted by WEQ OASIS in response to NCEMC](#), [Late Comments Submitted by WEQ OASIS in response to BPA](#), [Late Comments Submitted by WEQ OASIS in response to PJM](#), [Late Comments Submitted by WEQ OASIS in response to ISO/RTO Council's Standards Review Committee](#), [Late Comments Submitted by WEQ OASIS in response to NYISO](#), [Late Comments Submitted by WEQ OASIS](#), [Ratification for 2018 WEQ Annual Plan Item 3.e](#), [Recommendation for 2018 WEQ Annual Plan Item 3.b](#), [Request for Comments on 2018 Annual Plan Item 3.b](#), [Comments Submitted by JT Wood, Southern Company](#), [Comments Submitted by J. Phillips on behalf of SPP and MISO](#), [Ratification of 2018 WEQ Annual Plan Item 3.b](#), and [August 21, 2018 WEQ Executive Committee Meeting Notes](#).



Green Button Update: During its October 10, 2018 meeting hosted by Dominion in Richmond, VA, the RMQ Executive Committee remanded a recommendation containing revisions to the Energy Services Provider Interface Model Business Practices (ESPI) back to the ESPI Task Force due to a substantial set of comments submitted by the Green Button Alliance and a request for more time to finalize the document. Additionally, the Executive Committee has agreed to shorten the upcoming formal industry comment period for the recommendation from 30 days to 14 days. Serving as the critical foundation of the Green Button Initiative, ESPI details an interface that enables the retail customer authorization for the exchange of energy usage information from data custodians to third parties.

In 2011, the Green Button Initiative started in the United States in response to the White House call to action challenging utilities to provide their customers with access to their energy usage information via a “Green Button” on their websites. Since that time, over 150 utilities and service providers have committed to providing more than 60 million US households with access to their energy usage information. In Canada, more than half of the Ontario-based consumers, totaling 3 million residences and businesses, now have access to their Green Button data. Following the comment period, the revised recommendation will once again be considered by the RMQ Executive Committee. The next ESPI Task Force conference call will be announced by the NAESB office.

For more information, please go to [2018 RMO Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 RMO Annual Plan](#), [R13001](#), [Recommendation for R13001](#), [Attachment to Recommendation for R13001](#), [Request for Comments on R13001](#), [Comments Submitted by Green Button Alliance](#), and [October 10, 2018 RMO Executive Committee Meeting Notes](#).

STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT *(continued)*

Cybersecurity: During its October 9, 2018 meeting, the WEQ Executive Committee revised and approved a recommendation in support of 2018 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.a. That annual plan item charges the WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee with an annual assessment of the WEQ Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Business Practice Standards and the NAESB Accreditation Requirements for Authorized Certification Authorities (Accreditation Requirements) to determine if any changes are needed to meet market conditions. As an integral part of the NAESB Certification Program for Accredited Certification Authorities, the Accreditation Requirements detail specifications for certificate uses, assurance levels, identification and authentication, certificate lifecycles, facility management and operations controls, and numerous other profiles and controls.

Along with correcting typographical errors, the recommendation also updates two sections of the accreditation requirements to reflect the most current versions of guidelines and adds clarifying language to another existing section. During the Executive Committee meeting, further revisions were applied to correct typographical errors. The WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee held two conference calls on July 10, 2018 and August 14, 2018 before voting out the recommendation during its August 30, 2018 call. No comments were received during the thirty day industry comment period that concluded on October 1, 2018.

Additionally, on August 21, 2018, the WEQ Executive Committee approved a no action recommendation from the WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee in support of 2018 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.b – Evaluate and modify the NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards as needed to support and/or complement the current version of the NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Standards and any other activities of the FERC/NERC related to cybersecurity. Upon the September 14, 2018 conclusion of the thirty day comment period for the recommendation, there was one comment submitted from the ISO/RTO Council in support of the decision to take no action. To respond to the annual plan item, the subcommittee reviewed FERC Order No. 848, *Cyber Security Incident Reporting Reliability Standards*, issued in Docket No. RM18-2-000; FERC Order No. 843, *Revised CIP Reliability Standard CIP-003-7 – Cyber Security – Security Management Controls*, issued in Docket No. RM17-11-000; the FERC NOPR Supply Chain Risk Management Reliability Standards; and NERC Project 2016-02 Modifications to CIP Standards. While it was determined that no action was warranted at the time, the WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee will continue to monitor NERC standard development activities resulting from FERC Order Nos. 848 and 843. Additionally, NAESB will monitor NERC activities resulting from FERC Order No. 850, *Supply Chain Risk Management Reliability Standards*, issued on October 18, 2018 in Docket No. RM17-13-000.

For more information, please go to [2018 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [October 9, 2018 WEQ Executive Committee Meeting Agenda](#), [Recommendation for 2018 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.a as Revised by the WEQ Executive Committee on October 9, 2018](#), [Attachment to Recommendation for 2018 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.a](#), [Request for Comments on 2018 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.a](#), [Board Certification Committee Authorized Certification Authority Process](#), [NAESB Accreditation Requirements for Authorized Certification Authorities](#), [WEQ-012 Public Key Infrastructure Business Practice Standards](#), [August 21, WEQ Executive Committee Notes](#), [No Action Recommendation for 2018 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.b](#), [Request for Comments on 2018 WEQ Annual Plan Item 4.b](#), [Comments Submitted by the ISO/RTO Council](#), [FERC Order No. 850](#), [January 18, 2018 FERC NOPR](#), [December 21, 2017 FERC NOPR](#), [FERC Order No. 848](#), and [April 19, 2018 FERC Order No. 843](#).

NAESB Standards Development Survey: In 2014, 2016, and now, 2018, the NAESB Board Strategic Plan Task Force has circulated a standards development survey with the goal of receiving information that may be helpful for the board as they develop the annual plans for the next year. The Board Strategic Plan Task Force met in March and May to develop the survey, distributed the document industry-wide in June, and the results were returned in mid-July. On August 17, 2018, the report, including the survey results, was voted out of the task force and reviewed during the September board meeting.

As noted during the September Board of Directors meeting, eighty-seven responses were received from seventy-seven organizations. Roughly seventy-four percent of the responses were from NAESB members. The survey identified eight areas of potential standards development and four areas for potential standards related activities that NAESB could consider in the next eighteen to twenty four months. Under the category of Potential Standards Development Areas, the top three categories that received the most positive responses were Cybersecurity of the Energy Markets; Gas-Electric Market Coordination; and the category including Distributed Generation, Microgrids, Industrial Internet of Things, Solar, and Wind Generation.

For more information, please go to [December 13, 2018 Board of Directors Announcement](#), [September 6, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting Agenda](#), [Proposed 2019 RMO Annual Plan](#), [2019 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [2019 WGO Annual Plan](#), [2018 RMO Annual Plan](#), [2018 WGO Annual Plan](#), [2018 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [Draft 2018 NAESB Standards Development Survey](#), [2018 NAESB Board Strategic Plan Task Force Report and Survey Results](#), [October 25, 2018 Board Strategic Plan Task Force Meeting Agenda](#), [Proposed NAESB 2019-2021 Strategic Plan](#), [NAESB 2017-2019 Strategic Plan](#), [March 14, 2018 Board Strategic Plan Task Force Meeting Notes](#), [May 31, 2018 Board Strategic Plan Task Force Meeting Notes](#), and [August 17, 2018 Board Strategic Plan Task Force Meeting Notes](#).

NAESB Board Committees Update: On December 13, 2018, the NAESB Board of Directors will hold its last meeting of the year in Houston, Texas at the Marriot Marquis Downtown. Along with other standing agenda items, the board members will consider the organization’s budget and proposed annual plans for the next year, as well as receive updates on the progress of board committees and subcommittees.

Following its October 25, 2018 working session, the Board Strategic Plan Task Force endorsed, via notational ballot, all three quadrant annual plans as consistent with the NAESB Strategic Plan 2017-2019 as well as the 2018 NAESB Standards Development Report and Survey Results. Also, through that notational ballot, the task force endorsed a motion to approve the *Proposed NAESB Strategic Plan 2019-2021*. The notational ballots were delivered to the task force on October 26, 2018 and returned on November 2, 2018. No opposition to the motions was offered and no comments were received. The task force will present the NAESB Strategic Plan 2019-2021 during the December board meeting.

In preparation for December 13 board meeting, the Parliamentary Committee will hold a conference call on November 15, 2018 to continue to revise the NAESB governance documents in order to incorporate previous board resolutions and common practices. This effort is part of an overall review to ensure that each of the NAESB Governance Documents are consistent with Delaware General Corporations Law, the other NAESB governance documents, and the original intent of the resolutions from the Board of Directors. During its last meeting in September, the Parliamentary Committee focused its efforts on necessary revisions to the NAESB Certificate of Incorporation.

Also on November 15, the Board Revenue Committee will hold a conference call to review the quadrant publication schedules, communication activities, and the revenue report, among other standing agenda items.

On November 27, 2018, the Board Retail Structure Review Committee will hold a conference call to continue its efforts to increase membership levels within the RMQ. During the call, the committee members will discuss several potential paths to increasing participation and consider proposals on the future direction of the quadrant’s activities.

On December 3, 2018, the Board Critical Infrastructure Committee will hold a conference call to continue its efforts concerning the Sandia National Laboratories surety assessment of the NAESB Standards and Model Business Practices. During the call, the committee will review the draft iteration of the surety assessment report that Sandia National Laboratories has committed to provide to NAESB in late November. The report will be distributed to committee members as soon as it is received by NAESB.

For more information, please go to [2018 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 WEQ Annual Plan](#), [2018 RMQ Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 RMQ Annual Plan](#), [2018 WGO Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 WGO Annual Plan](#), [December 13, 2018 Board of Directors Announcement](#), [October 25, 2018 Board Strategic Plan Task Force Meeting Agenda](#), [NAESB Strategic Plan 2017-2019](#), [Proposed NAESB Strategic Plan 2019-2021](#), [Parliamentary Committee Roster](#),

[November 15, 2018 Parliamentary Committee Agenda](#), [November 15, 2018 Board Revenue Committee Agenda](#), [November 27, 2018 Board Retail Structure Review Committee Agenda](#), [December 3, 2018 Board Critical Infrastructure Committee Agenda](#), [NAESB Operating Practices](#), [NAESB By-Laws](#), and [NAESB Certificate of Incorporation](#).

Open Field Message Bus (OpenFMB) Model Business Practices: On September 23, 2018, NAESB received Standards Request R18012 from SSL.com. The request asked that NAESB develop baseline requirements for Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and Digital Certificate issuance in the RMQ.26 Open Field Message Bus Model Business Practices. The efforts to develop a recommendation in response to R18012 will dovetail with 2019 RMQ Annual Plan Item 4 – Develop security model business practices as necessary for the OpenFMB architecture. At the beginning of next year, the NAESB OpenFMB Task Force will hold a series of conference calls to address both R18012 and 2019 RMQ Annual Plan Item 4 simultaneously.

Since its ratification by NAESB in March of 2016, OpenFMB has been showcased at DistribuTECH and OpenFMB test beds have been set up across the country including Charlotte, NC (Duke Energy), Golden Colorado (National Renewable Energy Laboratory), and San Antonio, TX (CPS Energy).

Following the general, operational, and management model business practices that make up the bulk of the standards, the OpenFMB reference architecture also contains XML Schema Definition (XSD) profiles, and Platform Independent Model (PIM) information.

In the past, NAESB worked with the Smart Electric Power Alliance (SEPA) as the OpenFMB user group. At the beginning of 2018, the UCA International Users Group (UCAIug) took over this role and now acts as the new OpenFMB user group. While the UCAIug will focus on the actual implementation of the OpenFMB Model Business Practices, NAESB will continue to update the OpenFMB Model Business Practices which provide the foundation for that implementation. NAESB and UCAIug will work together to coordinate on this effort.

For more information, please go to [2018 RMQ Annual Plan](#), [Proposed 2019 RMO Annual Plan](#), and [R18012](#).

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

Upcoming NAESB Webcourses: In 2019, NAESB will continue to offer interactive webcourses to the industry. Last year’s webinars were well attended and the NAESB office received positive feedback from course attendees. In the coming year, NAESB will offer courses related to the Understanding the NAESB WGQ Contracts Webcourse and the NAESB 101 Webinar. Additionally, dependent upon events within the industry, the NAESB WEQ Business Practices Standards Webcourse and the NAESB WGQ Business Practice Standards Webcourse may also be offered along with other courses, as they become necessary. The dates of the 2019 webcourses will soon be announced by the NAESB office.

For more information, please go to [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) for additional information.

NAESB Quadrant Membership Analysis:

Wholesale Gas Quadrant	125
Retail Markets Quadrant	42
Wholesale Electric Quadrant	138
Total Membership	305 Members

NAESB New Members

Retail Markets Quadrant (Segment):

Emil Peña Interests, Inc. (EPII)
(Retail Electric Service Providers/Suppliers)

Wholesale Electric Quadrant (Segment):

EVC Insights, LLC (Technology & Services)
Hartigen Solutions LLC (Technology & Services)

Wholesale Gas Quadrant (Segment):

Gunvor USA LLC (Services)
Corpus Christi Liquefaction, LLC (End Users)