##### April 16, 2025

**TO:** All Interested Parties

**FROM:** Caroline Trum, Director of Wholesale Electric Activities

**RE: WEQ Coordination Activities with NERC**

NAESB and NERC remain committed to coordination efforts to help ensure consistency between the business practices and reliability requirements within the WEQ Business Practice Standards and NERC Reliability Standards. Recent areas of coordination include congestion management, gas-electric coordination and cold weather preparedness, cybersecurity, and distributed energy resources (DERs) and inverter-based resources (IBRs).

Currently, in response to an industry-submitted request, the WEQ is considering the development of new WEQ Business Practice Standards to support an interconnection-wide congestion management process for the Western Interconnection by establishing a standardized methodology for issuing curtailments and relief obligations. Per the request, the intent is for any developed business practices to be used in addition to existing processes and applicable NERC Reliability Standards. While the participants do not anticipate any impact to the reliability requirements, NAESB staff is in communication with NERC and Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) staff regarding the effort’s progress, and WECC staff is participating in standards development.

In addition to this effort, NAESB staff continues to communicate with NERC regarding other WEQ subcommittee activities that support coordination, such as the WEQ Standards Review Subcommittee (SRS). The subcommittee last met on March 20, 2025 to continue its efforts to review and monitor NERC reliability standard development projects identified as possible areas of coordination between the NAESB business practices and NERC reliability requirements. During this meeting, the subcommittee reviewed the status of various NERC efforts to revise cybersecurity requirements included in the NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Reliability Standards as well as to address Commission directives in FERC Order No. 901 *Reliability Standards to Address Inverter-Based Resources* that may result in new or revised requirements regarding IBRs and DERs. Additionally, the discussed the possible impact to the WEQ Business Practice Standards of proposed revisions to NERC Reliability Standard EOP-012 Extreme Cold Weather Preparedness and Operations. The WEQ SRS participants concluded that, as with the previous version of the reliability standard, there is likely no need for complementary WEQ Business Practice Standards but will continue to monitor any future developments, including in response to possible FERC action. NERC filed the revised reliability standard with the FERC on April 10, 2025 in Docket No. RD25-7-000.

The 2025 WEQ Annual Plan also includes assignments to the WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee and WEQ Coordinate Interchange Scheduling Subcommittee (CISS) to support coordination with NERC. On May 7, 2025, the WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee will meet to begin its annual assessment of the cybersecurity-related WEQ Business Practice Standards. This includes a review of the current NERC CIP Reliability Standards and other NERC cybersecurity activities. Additionally, the WEQ CISS will meet later this year as part of its annual effort to review the NAESB Electronic Tagging Functional Specification to ensure consistency with the applicable WEQ Business Practice Standards and NERC Reliability Standards.