##### March 24, 2017

**TO:** All Interested Parties

**FROM:** Elizabeth Mallett, NAESB Deputy Director

**RE: Update to the Board of Directors – Retail Markets Quadrant (RMQ) Open Field Message Bus (OpenFMB) Task Force**

This year, at the January 31- February 2 DistribuTECH Conference and Exhibition visitors were presented with the OpenFMB Collaboration Site, a website that provides example code, wikis, use cases, a blog, links, and a community of users to address communication between the devices at the grid edge. Published in Version 3.1 of the NAESB RMQ Model Business Practices on March 31, 2016, the RMQ.26 – Open Field Message Bus (OpenFMB) Model Business Practices were ratified by the NAESB membership on March 7, 2016. While leveraging a non-proprietary and standards-based reference architecture platform, Open FMB expands interoperability for intelligent field devices on the grid. During the initial development of RMQ.26, the NAESB OpenFMB Task Force focused on grid-edge technology, with three microgrid use cases serving as drivers for the effort – Microgrid Optimization, Microgrid Unscheduled Islanding Transition, and Microgrid Island to Grid Connected Transition.

Since the publication of Version 3.1, the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel (SGIP) has developed additional OpenFMB use cases to address DER Circuit Segment Management, Circuit Segment Optimization, Microgrid Unscheduled Islanding, and Microgrid Reconnection. In the upcoming months, the NAESB OpenFMB Task Force anticipates further standards development efforts to incorporate the new use cases into the next version of the NAESB RMQ Model Business Practices.

Additionally, the OpenFMB Task Force will address 2017 RMQ Annual Plan Item 4.a – Cybersecurity for the RMQ.26 OpenFMB – develop security model business practices as necessary for the OpenFMB architecture. This annual plan item will examine the cybersecurity aspects of the OpenFMB Model Business Practices and has an expected completion date within the third quarter of 2017. Discussions regarding a certification program for the OpenFMB Model Business Practices are also underway. The next Open FMB Task Force conference call will be announced by the NAESB Office.