##### August 27, 2024

**TO:** All Interested Parties

**FROM:** Caroline Trum, Director, Wholesale Electric Quadrant

**RE: WEQ/RMQ/WGQ Gas-Electric Coordination**

In July, the WEQ, WGQ, and RMQ Business Practices Subcommittees (BPS) concluded their efforts to address the jointly assigned 2024 Annual Plan Items to consider revisions to the NAESB Business Practice Standards to support enhanced gas-electric market coordination communications during critical events. During the joint meeting held on July 19, 2024, the subcommittees voted out a recommendation proposing new and revised WGQ Business Practice Standards. These proposed standards will (1) establish a new area on an interstate pipeline’s informational posting web sites called “Gas Electric Coordination” where scheduled quantity data will be posted for pipelines that are directly connected to natural gas-fired power plants and (2) require interstate natural gas pipelines to include geographic information of impacted areas, locations, or pipeline facilities when issuing a Critical Notice. A formal industry comment period on the recommendation concluded on August 19, 2024. The recommendation will be considered by the WGQ Executive Committee during its meeting scheduled for October 24, 2024. If adopted and subsequently ratified by membership, the standards will become a final action.

In total, the Joint BPS held ten meetings between January and July 2024 to evaluate possible areas of standards development for consideration. During these meetings, the participants identified several other categories of potential standards development such as (1) local distribution company, end user, and pipeline forecast information sharing, (2) communication protocols for upstream natural gas entities, and (3) the types of data that could enhance the level of awareness industry tools may provide, specifically regarding upstream natural gas production forecasting in advance of storms and production impacts during weather events. As part of the discussions on industry tools, a presentation was provided by Argonne National Laboratories regarding its NGInsight tool that uses publicly available data posed to pipeline Informational Posting Websites to provide a near real-time assimilation of information from approximately 75% of interstate and offshore gas transmission pipelines, creating a national-level view of natural gas system situational awareness. While standards proposals expanding on these ideas were not offered by participants, there was recognition that there could be possible future development efforts in these areas.

Assigned by the NAESB Board of Directors, the 2024 Annual Plans made a joint assignment to the WEQ, WGQ, and RMQ for consideration and development of modifications to the NAESB Gas/Electric Coordination Business Practice Standards and any corresponding standards that could improve communication among gas and electric market participants during extreme weather events and enhance situational awareness. This includes business practice standards related to the communication, during extreme cold weather events, of information regarding operational issues in anticipation of critical notices, operational flow orders or force majeure notices, and aggregated volume data or confirmed scheduled quantities for key upstream receipt points on the pipeline system. The annual plan items were created in response to a recommendation by FERC and NERC in the FERC, NERC, and Regional Entity Staff Report: Inquiry into Bulk-Power System Operations During December 2022 Winter Storm Elliott which asked NAESB to convene natural gas infrastructure entities, electric grid operators, and LDCs to identify improvements in communication during extreme cold weather events to enhance situational awareness.