



North American Energy Standards Board

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Home Page: www.naesb.org

December 15, 2025

NAESB UPDATE CONFERENCE CALL

WEQ BUSINESS PRACTICES SUBCOMMITTEE: Mr. Fitzgerald, Vice Chair of the NAESB WEQ Executive Committee, provided the update. On December 2, 2025, the WEQ Western Interconnection Loading Relief (WLR) Business Practice Standard was ratified. The new standard supports a new comprehensive, flow-based congestion management framework for the West by establishing the standardized methodology to assign priority for curtailment and relief obligations to a transaction that materially impact an area of constraint on the bulk electric grid. NAESB coordinated with NERC and Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) throughout the standards development process, with WECC staff actively participating in the subcommittee meetings. As discussed by the standard development participants, the WLR process is expected to increase visibility of sources contributing to areas of constraint, and provide expanded curtailment functionality that could improve a reliability coordinator's capability to resolve congestion. The ratified WLR Business Practice Standard is available on the NAESB website and will be included in the next version of the WEQ Business Practice Standards.

The WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS) also continues its joint effort with the RMQ BPS on the development of standards supporting industry use of a distributed energy resource (DER) data registry. During the recent joint subcommittee meetings, the participants discussed how a registry could support market participant coordination efforts and improve data accessibility, including consideration of NERC white papers addressing best practices for collaborative DER information sharing, such as use of a registry. Based on the discussions and feedback during the meetings, the participants are currently developing use cases focusing on four areas of potential industry priority that a registry could support: owner DER asset registration, aggregation creation and registration, and the capability and reliability reviews performed at the distribution and wholesale levels. These use cases will identify the DER and aggregation data needed to support these processes and describe potential entity roles and responsibilities within a registry. The final joint meeting for this year is scheduled for December 18, 2025.

WEQ STANDARDS REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE: Mr. Fitzgerald, Vice Chair of the NAESB WEQ Executive Committee, provided the update. The WEQ Standards Review Subcommittee (SRS) continues to monitor NERC development projects in areas with overlapping commercial and operational considerations to support coordination efforts of the organizations and consistency between the NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards and NERC Reliability Standard. The subcommittee held regular meetings over the past year to review various NERC development projects, including reliability requirements for inverter-based resources (IBRs) and DERs, cybersecurity, facility ratings, and energy assurance and fuel-security for reliable operations of the bulk power grid. As part of the discussions during the most recent meeting, the subcommittee reviewed two new NERC Reliability Standard development projects intended to address FERC directives included in recently issued orders: ride-through requirements for IBRs in response to FERC Order No. 909 and supply chain risk management requirements included in the NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection Reliability Standards in response to FERC Order No. 912. The participants agreed to add both efforts to the list of NERC development projects the subcommittee is following as potential areas of coordination.

WEQ COORDINATE INTERCHANGE SCHEDULING SUBCOMMITTEE: Mr. Buus, Co-Chair of the NAESB WEQ Coordinate Interchange Scheduling Subcommittee (CISS), provided the update. In October, the WEQ Executive Committee approved two no action recommendations developed by the WEQ CISS. The first no action recommendation addressed a potential modification to standards to help streamline management of bi-directional resources, such as batteries. Based on discussions during the subcommittee meetings, the subcommittee determined that standards development would be premature. However, there was general consensus that the use of such resources is becoming increasingly prevalent in the industry and standards in this area may need to be revisited as part of future efforts. The second no action recommendation resulted from the subcommittee's annual review of the NAESB Electronic Tagging Functional Specification, which the subcommittee determined that no updates were necessary. The annual review performed by the subcommittee ensures consistency with the associated WEQ Business Practice Standards, NERC Reliability Standards, and related cybersecurity best practices. The WEQ CISS will continue to



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conduct this annual review in 2026. Also included in the proposed 2026 WEQ Annual Plan is a jointly assigned item with the WEQ OASIS Subcommittee and WEQ BPS to support greater consistency in calculating integrated hourly values used within the wholesale electric scheduling and transmission management processes. The WEQ-004 Coordinate Interchange Business Practice Standards require rounding to the nearest whole number as part of the calculation for integrated hourly values. There are different industry practices for when the rounding occurs as part of the calculation that can lead to variances in the calculated value. The WEQ CISS will assess whether a new granular definition for calculating integrated hourly values is needed and coordinate with the other subcommittees to ensure the new definition properly aligns with the context and usage of term across all WEQ standards. The initial kickoff meeting is anticipated to take place in mid-January, 2026.

WEQ OASIS SUBCOMMITTEE: Mr. Wood, Co-Chair of the NAESB WEQ OASIS Subcommittee, provided the update. The WEQ OASIS Subcommittee completed its assigned standards efforts for 2025 earlier this year, including the development of a no action recommendation for modifications related to documentation within OASIS of a transmission customer's designation of an agent to conduct transactions on its behalf for point-to-point transmission service transactions. Based on the discussion and feedback received from several meetings, the subcommittee concluded that revisions were not necessary as a transmission customer's agent is identified within a transmission service request. The no action recommendation was adopted by the WEQ Executive Committee as part of its March 2025 meeting. Looking ahead, the proposed 2026 WEQ Annual Plan includes a review of OASIS related WEQ Business Practice Standards to identify whether any modifications are needed based on implementation and operational experiences since the last version was published in July 2023. Revisions were made to the standards as part of WEQ Version 004 to address directives in FERC Order No. 676-I, provide additional clarity regarding the eligibility and treatment of rollover rights and preemption and competition process, and establish new mechanisms to improve efficiencies to query functionality within the system and processes to modify transmission service reservations, among others. Subcommittee leadership anticipates the development of any modifications identified based on the review to be completed by 4th Quarter, 2026.

WEQ/RMQ/WGQ CYBERSECURITY ACTIVITIES: Mr. Buccigross, Chair of the NAESB WGQ Executive Committee and WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee, provided the update. The WGQ, RMQ, and WEQ completed development of cybersecurity related modifications to the NAESB Business Practice Standards that were considered by the Executive Committees in October. The WGQ and RMQ ratified revisions to their respective Cybersecurity Standards and Quadrant Electronic Delivery Mechanism (EDM) Standards to update internet protocol technical guidance, correct outdated or obsolete citations, and refine language to promote consistency. Both quadrants also included cross references to their respective Cybersecurity and EDM Standards, clarifying that both standards must be used together to ensure the secure exchange of electronic data. Additionally, the WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee updated the Accreditation Requirements for Authorized Certification Authorities (ACAs), which became effective on October 22, 2025, following approval by the WEQ Executive Committee. The revisions include the deprecation of an obsolete encryption methodology and outdated cryptographic modules used as part of digital certificate generation and are aligned with broader, general industry guidance from the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Certificate Authority/Browser Forum regarding the issuance of Public Key Infrastructure digital certificates. The WEQ, WGQ, and RMQ will continue conducting its annual cybersecurity reviews in 2026 and update the requirements as necessary. The proposed 2026 WEQ Annual Plan also includes consideration of standards related to cybersecurity vulnerability disclosures, including those that support implementation of NERC Supply Chain Risk Management Reliability Standards required under FERC Order No. 912. To support this effort, the WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee and WEQ BPS will hold a joint meeting on December 15, 2025 to discuss background information and potential considerations for standards development.

RMQ BUSINESS PRACTICES SUBCOMMITTEE: Ms. McKeever, Chair of the NAESB RMQ Executive Committee, provided the update. On December 2, 2025, membership ratified Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) Business Practice Standards for the NAESB Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Distribution Grid Services from DER Aggregations (NAESB Distribution Grid Services Base Contract). The new standard allows parties to create a digitized version of the NAESB standardized contract that can be used to conduct transactions on distributed ledgers. In developing the recommendation, the RMQ leveraged existing NAESB DLT Business Practice Standards, such as



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those supporting the NAESB standardized contracts for the sale and purchase of natural gas and voluntary renewable energy certificates. The DLT standards represent the second phase of development supporting the NAESB Distribution Grid Services Base Contract. The NAESB Distribution Grid Services Base Contract supports bilateral negotiations between distribution utilities and DER aggregators for grid service transactions subject to state or local jurisdiction. NAESB initiated the development effort at the request of the U.S. Department of Energy proposing development a standardized contract intended to enhance efficiency and certainty during negotiations for the acquisition of distribution grid services from DER aggregations in the retail markets. The RMQ BPS plans to continue joint development of the DER registry standards with WEQ BPS in 2026 and will hold its final joint meeting of the year on December 18, 2025.

WGQ BUSINESS PRACTICES SUBCOMMITTEE: Mr. McCluskey, Co-Chair of the NAESB WGQ BPS, provided the update. On November 24, 2025, membership ratified modifications to the Nominations Related Standards and Capacity Release Standards included in the WGQ Business Practice Standards. The revised WGQ Nomination Related Standards reduce the maximum nomination response time from 30 minutes to 5 minutes. These changes are reflective of current technology capabilities and will support quicker access to data by industry participants, potentially enhancing operational efficiency and reducing the risk of errors or scheduling conflicts. The revised WGQ Capacity Release Standard allow the contact information of releasers and bidders to be included in the bids, offers, and awards datasets. These changes can help streamline communications between parties and promote greater efficiency in the capacity release transaction process. The ratified standards are now posted as final actions on the NAESB website and will be included in the next version of WGQ Business Practice Standards. The proposed 2026 WGQ Annual Plan includes a review of nominations related standards to improve consistency in data element usage and to streamline technical implementation. The WGQ BPS will schedule a meeting after the start of the year to begin consideration.

WGQ CONTRACTS SUBCOMMITTEE: Mr. Sappenfield, Chair of the NAESB WGQ Contracts Subcommittee, provided the update. On November 24, 2025, membership ratified the NAESB Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Hydrogen (Hydrogen Base Contract), the Canadian Addendum to support cross-border transactions, and an accompanying Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document. The contract is now available for industry use. The development of the NAESB Hydrogen Base Contract represents the culmination of a two-year effort. A total of 122 individuals, representing 93 distinct companies, participated in the subcommittee meetings. The NAESB Hydrogen Base Contract draws its terms and conditions from those included in the existing NAESB Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas, the Certified Gas Addendum, and the Master Agreement for Purchase, Sale or Exchange of Liquid Hydrocarbons. The contract provides optionality for bundled and unbundled transactions with energy attribute certificates that can be used to facilitate book and claim or trace and claim programs similar to those used in the renewable energy certificate market. Another key provision addresses the identification of carbon intensity values, with the protocols selected to calculate these values supporting transactions that do not fit within traditional hydrogen “color wheel” categories. The subcommittee may meet next year to support industry use of the NAESB Hydrogen Base Contract. The proposed 2026 WGQ Annual Plan includes a provisional activity to develop electronic datasets and other technical implementation details supporting industry use of the contract.

NEXT CONFERENCE CALL: The next NAESB Update Conference Call is scheduled for February 18, 2026 from 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Central. The agenda and any work papers will be posted on the NAESB Update Call page of the NAESB website, accessible at the following link: http://www.naesb.org/monthly_update.asp. We hope you can join us. If there are particular topics you would like to see covered or if you would like to receive additional information, please contact the NAESB Office by phone at (713) 356-0060 or email at naesb@naesb.org.



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NAESB Update Conference Call Participant List December 10, 2025 at 1:00 PM Central

Name	Organization
Wes Barber	Southern Company
Jim Buccigross	Group 8760 LLC
Christopher Burden	Enbridge
Jim Busch	BP Energy Company
Zachary Buus	BPA
Melissa Crosby	NorthWestern Energy
Katie Davis	BPA Transmission
Steven Fiorella	Southern Co
John Fitzgerald	TVA
Megan Hagan	Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline
Brandon Hajek	Northern Natural Gas
Ronnie Hensley	Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline
Sadon Hughes	BW Pipelines
Regina Jang	NAESB
Mike Kraft	Basin Electric Power Cooperative
Tom Kraft	ONEOK
Tara Liscombe	Castleton Commodities International
Leif Mattson	WBI Energy
Willis McCluskey	Salt River Project
Deborah McKeever	Oncor
Farrokh Rahimi	OATI
Jeremy Roberts	Green Button Alliance
Lisa Russo	National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation
Keith Sappenfield	KS Energy Consultant
Michael Scott	Duke Energy
Jennifer Seavey	Arizona Public Service
Sarah Shaffer	Equitrans, LP
Sara Shepard	NorthWestern Energy



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Thomas Zermeno	SSL.com