**NAESB Electronic Tagging (e-Tag) Specification Version 1.8.4 Implementation Plan**

**Description of change(s):**

Please see the functionality document created by the NAESB Wholesale Electric Quadrant (WEQ) Coordinate Interchange Scheduling Subcommittee (CISS).

**Implementation Timeline:**

E-Tag version 1.8.4 Vendor Interoperability Testing Dates:

**TBD:** Dates TBD (NAESB Conference Bridge from 1:00pm CPT to 4:00pm CPT)

E-Tag version 1.8.4 Implementation Date:

**TBD, 2020 00:00 CST (Midnight CST between TBD, 2020 and TBD, 2020)**

Prevailing times for Implementation Date:

Atlantic Daylight Time TBD, 2020 03:00

Eastern Daylight Time TBD, 2020 02:00

 Central Daylight Time TBD, 2020 01:00

 Mountain Daylight Time TBD, 2020 00:00

 Pacific Daylight Time TBD, 2020 23:00

E-Tag version 1.8.3 Retirement Date:

**TBD, 2020 00:00 CST (Midnight CST between TBD, 2020 and TBD, 2020)**

Prevailing times for Retirement Date:

Atlantic Daylight Time TBD, 2020 03:00

Eastern Daylight Time TBD, 2020 02:00

 Central Daylight Time TBD, 2020 01:00

 Mountain Daylight Time TBD, 2020 00:00

 Pacific Daylight Time TBD, 2020 23:00

**Implementation Plan:**

Two potential options come to mind:

**IMPLEMENTATION OPTION 1 (Single Phase Roll-out)**

Vendors will enable the new e-Tag version at the Implementation Date. E-Tags created prior to the cut-over will be 1.8.3 e-Tags. E-Tags created at and after the cut-over will be 1.8.4 e-Tags.

All e-Tag *requests* created prior to the cut-over will utilize the old method for calculating the approval window, while e-Tag requests created at and after the cut-over will utilize the new method for calculating the approval window. This means that for 1.8.3 e-Tags that are active beyond the cut-over date, there could potentially be some requests that utilize the old approval windows, while other requests utilize the new approval windows.

Pros:

* This option is simpler. If this option is selected, there will not be a separate ‘Retirement’ phase, so we will not need the Retirement Date and the authority service will not be required to terminate active 1.8.3 e-Tags as part of the retirement (the 1.8.3 e-Tags could be allowed to gradually phase out).

Cons:

* While this is a simpler option, one thing to consider here is that it may cause some confusion for tags that have some requests created prior to the cutover using the old method for calculating the approval window, while the requests created after the cutover use the new method.
* In the past, we have generally allowed the old and new version of e-Tags to co-exist only for a limited period of time and have had a hard cut-off to end the older version e-Tags (retirement phase). With this option, 1.8.3 e-Tags could potentially exist for a while after the cut-over.
	+ To mitigate this, we could require the authority services to terminate 1.8.3 e-Tags at the time of the cut-over.

**IMPLEMENTATION OPTION 2 (Two Phase Roll-out)**

The roll out of version 1.8.4 is planned in two phases:

Phase 1: E-Tag v1.8.4 Implementation

Vendors will enable the new e-Tag version at the Implementation Date. E-Tags created prior to the cut-over will be 1.8.3 e-Tags and will work as they do today. E-Tags created at and after the cut-over will be 1.8.4 e-Tags and will behave as per the 1.8.4 changes (all e-Tag requests created on 1.8.3 e-Tags will use the old method of calculating the approval window, while all e-Tag requests created on 1.8.4 e-Tags will use the new method).

If there is a need to roll back, a decision must be made within 30 minutes, and the roll back must be complete no later than one hour after the Implementation Date. In the event of a roll back, the e-Tags created after the cut-over, up to the point of roll back must be terminated. E-Tag Vendors shall configure their authority services to automatically terminate any outstanding 1.8.4 e-Tags.

Phase 2: E-Tag v1.8.3 Retirement

With a successful transition to e-Tag 1.8.4, all remaining 1.8.3 e-Tags should be terminated, and a new 1.8.4 version of the e-Tag created by the Tag Author no later than the 1.8.3 Retirement Date. Vendors will work with end users to provide the ability to determine which tags are using version 1.8.3 of the e-Tag Specification. Tag Authors will be responsible for recreating the tags. Recreation of the tags may be made at any time between the 1.8.4 Implementation Date and the 1.8.3 Retirement Date.

E-Tag vendors shall configure the Authority Services to automatically terminate any outstanding e-Tags using the 1.8.3 Specification on 1.8.3 Retirement Date (these would be e-Tags created prior to the Implementation Date). This termination shall be entered seven days prior to the Retirement Date to ensure customers are provided ample notice. Outstanding 1.8.3 e-Tags will receive termination request with a comment on the tag that the termination is due to the retiring 1.8.3 specification. The specific verbiage of the comment field should be as follows:

*This tag is using 1.8.3. It will be terminated on TBD, 2020 at 00:00 CST. Please create a new tag if needed.*

Pros:

* Provides a clear demarcation between the two versions, and avoids combining the old and new approval window calculation methods on requests on the same e-Tag, thereby avoiding any confusion in the industry.
* This is our standard cutover method and incorporates a parallel operations period. Industry participants are used to this implementation plan.

Cons:

* Would take longer, and require additional coordination, communication, etc. with two phases.