##### February 24, 2025

**TO:** All Interested Parties

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

**RE: NERC Coordination Activities Update**

To help ensure consistency between the WEQ Business Practice Standards and NERC Reliability Standards, NAESB and NERC staffs actively engage in coordination in a number of areas, such as distributed energy resources (DERs) and inverter-based resources (IBRs), cybersecurity, and gas-electric coordination. Additionally, staffs also hold monthly calls to discuss standards development efforts that could impact both commercial and reliability considerations for the wholesale electric industry.

One such effort is the work underway to consider the development of business practices to support an interconnection-wide congestion management process for the Western Interconnection as part of Standards Request R24005 / 2025 WEQ Annual Plan Item 1.b. As stated by the requesters, the intent is for any developed standards to be used in addition to the Western Interconnection Unscheduled Flow Mitigation Plan, which is supported by NERC Reliability Standard IRO-006-WECC-3 Qualified Path Unscheduled Flow Relief. While the participants do not anticipate any developed business practices to impact the reliability requirements, NAESB is in communication with NERC and Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) staff regarding the progress of the WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee Western Interconnection Congestion Management Working Group. WECC staff also has committed to participating in the NAESB standards development effort.

In addition to the staff-level coordination, the WEQ Standards Review Subcommittee (SRS) continues to review NERC Projects to identify any areas that are or may need to be coordinated with NAESB efforts. Currently, the subcommittee is monitoring several efforts related to gas-electric coordination, IBRs, and cybersecurity. These include Project 2023-09 Risk Management for Third-Party Cloud Services, for which the NERC Standards Committee accepted the Standard Authorization Request (SAR) on December 10, 2024 and several projects that resulted in the development of new and revised NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Reliability Standards, filed with the FERC in December 2024. The WEQ SRS also is monitoring NERC efforts to revise EOP-012 Extreme Cold Weather Preparedness and Operations in response to FERC directives and various NERC Projects intended to address Commission directives in FERC Order No. 901 regarding the application of IBRs, including both utility scale and behind-the-meter resources.