| **NORTH AMERICAN ENERGY STANDARDS BOARD****2026 ANNUAL PLAN for the WHOLESALE ELECTRIC QUADRANT  Proposed by the WEQ Annual Plan Subcommittee on October 8, 2025** |
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| **Item Description** | **Completion[[1]](#endnote-1)** | **Assignment[[2]](#endnote-2)** |
| **1.** | **Develop business practices standards as needed to complement reliability standards** |
|  | Develop business practice standards to support and complement NERC reliability standards, NERC policies and NERC standards authorization requests (SARs). Current NAESB activities underway to develop business practice standards that are supportive of this annual plan item are:  |
|  | a) | Review annually, at a minimum, the current version of the NAESB Electronic Tagging Functional Specification and make revisions as necessary to ensure the specification continues to be supportive of applicable NERC Reliability Standards and NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards and is reflective of current cybersecurity best practices Status: Not Started | 3rd Q, 2026 | CISS |
|  | b) | Consider and develop business practice standards for cybersecurity vulnerability disclosures, such as software supply chain risks, including those to support industry implementation of FERC Order No. 912 in Docket Nos. RM24-4-000 and RM20-19-000Status: Not Started | 3rd Q, 2026 | BPS and Cybersecurity Subcommittee |
| **2.** | **Develop business practices standards to improve the current operation of the wholesale electric market and develop and maintain business practice and communication standards for OASIS and Electronic Scheduling** |
|  | a) | Develop and/or modify the WEQ Business Practice Standards, including WEQ-001, WEQ-004, WEQ-008, and WEQ-023, and the NAESB Electronic Tagging Functional Specification, as needed, to support greater consistency in rounding methodologies for integrated hourly value calculationsStatus: Not Started | 4th Q, 2026 | CISS, BPS, and OASIS Subcommittee |
|  | b) | Review the WEQ OASIS Business Practice Standards for needed modifications based on implementation and operational experiences since the adoption of WEQ Version 004Status: Not Started | 4th Q, 2026 | OASIS Subcommittee |
| **3.** | **Develop and/or maintain standard communication protocols and cybersecurity business practices as needed** |
|  | a) | Review annually, at a minimum, WEQ-012 and the accreditation requirements for Authorized Certification Authorities to determine if any changes are needed to meet market conditions.[[3]](#footnote-1)Status: Not Started | 3rd Q, 2026 | Cybersecurity Subcommittee |
|  | b) | Evaluate and modify standards as needed to support and/or complement the current version of the NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection Standards[[4]](#footnote-2) and any other activities of NERC and the FERC[[5]](#footnote-3) related to cybersecurity.Status: Not Started | 3rd Q, 2026 | Cybersecurity Subcommittee |
| **4.** | **Distributed Ledger Technology** |
|  | a) | Distributed Ledger Technology for Power Trade Events |
|  |  | i. | Review power trade events to streamline the power accounting close cycle to determine if WEQ Business Practice Standards should be developed utilizing Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT).Status: Not Started | 2026 | WEQ Executive Committee |
|  |  | ii. | Develop Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) WEQ Business Practice Standards and/or protocols for power trade events to streamline the power accounting close cycle, if needed based upon review.Status: Not Started | 2026 | WEQ Executive Committee |
| **5.** | **Develop and/or modify standards for information and reporting requirements to support distributed energy resources in front and behind the meter.**  |
|  | a) | Consider and develop business practices to support the integration of DER/DER aggregation registries by the industryStatus: Started | 20265 | BPS and RMQ BPS |
|  | b) | Develop additional business practices as needed, to address any wholesale market specific conditions to support the integration of DER/DER aggregation registries by the industryStatus: Not Started | 2026 | BPS |
| **Provisional Activities** |
| **1.** |  | **Optional Work to Extend Existing Standards** |
|  | a) | Develop business practice standards, as needed, to support purchase and sale transactions related to hydrogen |
|  | b) | Consider and develop of business practices to support the integration of DER management systems by the industry |
|  | c) | Develop additional business practices as needed, to address any wholesale market specific conditions to support the integration of DER management systems by the industry |
| **2.** |  | **Pending Regulatory or Legislative Action** |
|  | a) | Determine potential NAESB action if needed to support FERC Notice of Policy Statement *Carbon Pricing in Organized Wholesale Electricity Markets* in Docket No. AD20-14-000 |
|  | b) | Determine potential NAESB action, if needed, to support industry implementation of FERC Order No. 1920 *Building for the Future Through Electric Regional Transmission Planning and Cost Allocation* in Docket No. RM21-17-000 |
| **3.** |  | **Gas-Electric Market Coordination**  |
|  | a) | Upon a request or as directed by NAESB Board or a relevant jurisdictional entity, consider developingand/or modifying business practice standards that reflect best practices that will provide stronger operatingreliability from production/supply/transport during extreme weather conditions and more clearcommunications and business processes around force majeure declarations during critical operatingperiods |

**Wholesale Electric Quadrant Executive committee and Subcommittee Structure**

**NAESB 2026 WEQ EC and Subcommittee Leadership**:

**Wholesale Electric Quadrant**

**Executive Committee (WEQ EC)**

**Standards Review Subcommittee (SRS)**

**Interpretations Subcommittee**

**OASIS Subcommittee**

**Coordinate Interchange Scheduling Subcommittee (CISS)**

**Scoping**

**Development**

**Cybersecurity Subcommittee**

**Joint RMQ/WEQ Demand Side Management and Energy Efficiency (DSM-EE) Subcommittee**

**Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS)**

Executive Committee (EC): Joshua Phillips (Chair)

Standards Review Subcommittee (SRS): Chris Norton

Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS): Joshua Phillips and Lisa Sieg

Open Access Same Time Information System (OASIS) Subcommittee: Rob Arbitelle, Matt Schingle, J.T. Wood and Mike Steigerwald

Coordinate Interchange Scheduling Subcommittee (CISS): Zack Buus and Nik Browning

Cybersecurity Subcommittee: Jim Buccigross

Inactive Subcommittees:

e-Tariff Joint WEQ/WGQ Subcommittee (e-Tariff): Keith Sappenfield (WGQ)

Interpretations Subcommittee: Vacant

Demand Side Management-Energy Efficiency (DSM-EE) Subcommittee (RMQ/WEQ): Vacant

FERC Forms Subcommittee (WEQ/WGQ): Leigh Spangler (WGQ), Dick Brooks (WEQ)

1. **End Notes 2026 WEQ Annual Plan:**

 Dates in the completion column are by end of the quarter for completion by the assigned committee, subcommittee or task force. The dates do not necessarily mean that the standards are fully staffed to be implementable by the industry, and/or ratified by membership. If one item is completed earlier than planned, another item can begin earlier and possibly complete earlier than planned. There are no begin dates on the plan. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. The assignments are abbreviated. The abbreviations and sub-committee structure can be found at the end of the annual plan document. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. The “NAESB Accreditation Requirements for Authorized Certification Authorities” can be found at: <http://www.naesb.org/member_login_check.asp?doc=certification_specifications.docx>. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
4. <http://www.nerc.com/pa/Stand/Pages/CIPStandards.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
5. Including proceedings in FERC Docket No. RM20-19-000 (FERC Notice of Inquiry Equipment and Services Produced or Provided by Certain Entities Identified as Risks to National Security) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)