



## Gas Industry Standards Board

1100 Louisiana, Suite 4925, Houston, Texas 77002

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Home Page: www.gisb.org

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**TO:** Business Practices Subcommittee Chairs: Greg Lander, Producer Segment  
Vacancy, Diane McVicker, Norm Walker (absent), Robert McAnally (absent)  
Posting for Interested Industry Participants

**FROM:** Rae McQuade, Executive Director

**RE:** Final Minutes from the Business Practices Subcommittee Meeting

**DATE:** August 5, 1999

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**GAS INDUSTRY STANDARDS BOARD**  
**GISB BUSINESS PRACTICES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Teleconference Call: August 5, 1999**  
**FINAL MINUTES**

### I. Administrative

Ms. McVicker chaired the meeting and welcomed the participants. Ms. McQuade identified the participants in a roll call. Ms. McQuade gave the antitrust advice. The draft agenda was adopted with changes to the order of the requests:

- |     |         |  |
|-----|---------|--|
| (1) | R96022  | Sponsorship by TransCapacity           |
| (2) | R97113  | Sponsorship by Exxon                   |
| (3) | C97001B | Sponsorship by Reliant Energy -- NorAm |
| (4) | R97046  | Sponsorship by TransCapacity           |

The minutes of July 29 were modified during the review and accepted as final.

### II. EDM Requests

**R97103** Submitted by Enron Administrative Corp.

Request: The version and revision level of technology standards\* adopted by GISB and referenced in GISB standards should be clearly stated in the applicable standard(s). Any implementation of GISB standards should, at a minimum, be compatible with this version. Changes to the version and revision level of open standards should be made only through the GISB standards process.

\*Note: This refers only to technology standards formulated by other standards organizations such as the Internet Engineering Task Force and the World Wide Web Consortium.

Work Paper: [As revised in the previous meeting.]

GISB Standard 4.3.59 (EII S33) states:

"Providers of Customer Activities EBB/EDM sites should ensure that the site operates on the "Technical Characteristics of the Client Workstation" described in the appendix of the Electronic Delivery Mechanism Related Standards manual. This appendix, listing examples of hardware and software configurations that providers should meet, should be reviewed and updated by the Future Technology Task Force, at a minimum, by the spring of each year and presented to the GISB Executive Committee for adoption by the end of



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June."

The intent of the proposed standard below is to extend the scope of 4.3.59 to cover EDI/EDM and FF/EDM so that all three delivery mechanisms will be implemented in accordance with the appropriate versions of open technology standards, such as HTTP, HTML, and PGP.

Proposed Standard (4.3.x):

EDI/EDM and FF/EDM trading partners should utilize the version and release level, or a fully compatible version and release level, of the open technology standards listed in the GISB Electronic Delivery Mechanism Related Standards manual. The Future Technology Task Force should review the version and release level of these open technology standards at a minimum of once per year, and recommend any changes to the Executive Committee for adoption.

Discussion: Mr. Sicignano noted that the information should reference the appendix name and he offered that the term "designated sites" reference should be replaced by "trading partners." Further changes were made for applicability. The reference to technology standards refers to open standards, not GISB standards. There was discussion on the effect of this standard, which could make open technology standards which were adopted by GISB as guidelines to have the force of GISB standards. Others noted that the open technology standards were to be followed and made as guidelines so that GISB is not in the role of picking winners, and that the GISB standards would not work if the guidelines were not followed.

Action: The above standard (4.3.x) was accepted unanimously.

## II. General Requests

**R96022** Submitted by TransCapacity.

Request: Make the following principles as standards: GISB Standard Nos. 1.1.1, 1.1.4, 1.1.7, 3.1.2, 4.1.5, 4.1.6, 4.1.7, and 4.1.8. GISB Standard No. 4.1.8 should be changed to delete the second sentence.

Discussion: Mr. Lander reviewed his request and made several changes so that the request is amended to:

- Make the following principles as standards: GISB Standard Nos. 1.1.4, 1.1.7, 3.1.2 and 4.1.8. GISB Standard No. 4.1.8 should be changed to delete the second sentence. GISB Standard No. 4.1.5 should be reviewed for deletion.

Mr. Keisler noted that GISB Standard No. 3.1.2 should remain a principle because it describes how the standards should be developed rather than how trading partners communicate information. Mr. Young noted that unless there is a significant change in the way the standards are used by companies, he is opposed to changing standards to principles or principles to standards. In discussion on GISB Standard No. 1.1.7, it was agreed by several participants that the effect of the standard is to make Activity Code a mutually agreeable field. This change to reflect Activity Code as a mutually agreeable field does not change the intent of the request, but rather is clarifying the language.

On GISB Standard No. 1.1.4, Mr. Young noted that he would not want to make this a standard unless some parties were requiring pre-nominations. Some parties do require this pre-nomination, but in state jurisdictions rather than



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federal jurisdictions. All on the phone noted that these standards should apply to all parties.

For GISB Standard No. 1.1.7, Mr. Lander offered replacement language, which was changed during the discussion:

- "Use of Service Provider Activity Code should be mutually agreeable between the Transportation Service Provider and the Service Requester in all communications where it appears."

After further discussion, several agreed that the standard should be deleted and the above language be provided as instructions to the Information Requirements Subcommittee. Ms. Barnum noted that in the Nominations transaction, it is present as a mutually agreeable field. It was agreed that it should be mutually agreeable everywhere that it appears.

For GISB Standard No. 3.1.2, Mr. Lander suggested the following word change:

- "Elements should stay consistent from nominations through ~~billing~~ invoicing."

He noted though that it was more important to have this principle reclassified as a standard rather than reflect the words. Data element names and meanings have been consistent in design of the transaction sets. Mr. Lander noted that the issue is the presence or absence of the data elements from one transaction to another - the usage should be such that the elements move from one part of the process - nominations - to another part of the process - such as invoicing. This portion of the request is "parked" until after the resolution of Request Nos. R98011 and R98012 by the Executive Committee. Mr. Scheel noted that because this principle is an underlying policy in all standards development, it probably deserves the added perception for weight of a standard. Mr. Keisler reiterated his earlier position on this principle.

For GISB Standard No. 4.1.8, Mr. Lander noted that this principle guides the development of standards and should have the weight of a standard. Language changes were made during the discussion:

- "To the extent that multiple electronic delivery mechanisms are used, the same business result should occur. ~~regardless of the electronic delivery mechanism. This principle should guide the definition of the business process, data content of the transaction, and the timing of the transaction.~~"

Action:

The above request will be discussed at the next meeting for possible vote. It may be reviewed and voted as a package, or the individual parts of the request may be voted separately.



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### III. Agenda for next meeting

The next teleconference meeting, to be held on Thursday, August 12, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. central, will review the following requests for discussion and possible vote:

General Request Nos. (1) R96022 Sponsorship by TransCapacity

and will review the following requests for discussion only:

General Request Nos. (2)	R97113	Sponsorship by Exxon
(3)	C97001B	Sponsorship by Reliant Energy -- NorAm
(4)	R97046	Sponsorship by TransCapacity

### IV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. central.

### V. Meeting Attendees & Voting Record

Name	Company	Email Address <sup>1</sup>	Voting?	R97103	GISB Member
<b>Pipelines:</b>					
Theresa Hess	Enron - Northern Border	thess@enron.com	Yes	Yes	Yes
Betty Barnum	CMS Panhandle Eastern	babarnum@cmsenergy.com	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kim Van Pelt	CMS Trunkline	kvanpelt@cmsenergy.com	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jim Keisler	Transco		Yes	Yes	No
Dale Davis	Williams Gas Pipeline	Dale.m.davis@wgp.twc.com	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>End Users:</b>					
<b>Diane McVicker</b>	Salt River Project	dmcvick@srpnet.com	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Services:</b>					
<b>Greg Lander</b>	TransCapacity	exec@tcapserv.com	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mark Scheel	Dynegy Inc.	masc@dynegy.com	Yes	Yes	Yes
Gary Payne	Enron Administrative Corp.	gpayne@ect.enron.com	Yes	Yes	Yes
Randy Young	Koch Midstream Services	young0r@kochind.com	Yes	Yes	Yes
Andy Sicignano	Enron Capital and Trade	asicign@ect.enron.com	Yes	Yes	Yes

<sup>1</sup> The privacy policy stated on the GISB Web Site ("www.gisb.org") governs the use of information, such as email addresses, collected by GISB on its members and meeting participants. Members and participants are not required to give such information to GISB.