

# Gas Industry Standards Board

1100 Louisiana, Suite 4925, Houston, Texas 77002

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**TO:** Common Codes Subcommittee Chairs, Interested Industry Participants  
**FROM:** Jo Ann Garcia, Director  
**RE:** Draft Minutes from the Common Codes Subcommittee Meeting  
**DATE:** August 28, 2000

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## **I. Administrative**

Ms. Hopkins welcomed the attendees, gave the anti-trust advice, and read the list of attendees. The agenda was adopted. Ms. Hopkins explained that the conference call was for the participants to review the Order 637 plan, item no. 11b (Accommodate D-U-N-S® Number and name in Internet postings and their corresponding downloadable files. Determine what information goes into the data element – either D&B name or TSP). The subcommittee would then report back to the Executive Committee.

## **II. Data and Visual Display**

Mr. Aschbrenner stated he assumed the second part of assignment to the committee meant that we acknowledge there is difference what D&B calls a company and the name the customer gives you. He also stated that when you use the D&B search sometimes there will be abbreviations and sometimes there will be the name spelled out and there is no consistency. Is correcting this inconsistency what the group was trying to get done? He asked that if so, was this inconsistency worth changing? Mr. Scheel advised that if you have a Duns number it should match the name. He stated that there had to be some validation and hopefully you would get that by using the Duns number. He also stated that what you did not want to see were different names for the same number or difference numbers for the same name. That if you are validating through the Duns number then that should take care of it. Keisler stated that you can have a name repeated and for each address you would have a different duns number. Mr. Aschbrenner gave examples of what is listed in Dun & Bradstreet. Mr. Scheel asked that as long as there are two names and two numbers it should be ok.

Ms. Hopkins asked if there was a 100% check against D&B done by anyone. Mr. Aschbrenner said that they assumed someone had given D&B the number that they did not verify that it is a wrong number. Mr. Scheel stated he understood the Order to say that we are going to move away from the cross-reference table and the D&B would be where we validate, and if so, then there would need to be a clean up of the D&B table. Mr. Young stated he thought the Commission wanted names on some of the data that they were downloading in their files not that we were going away from the cross reference. Also, he did not understand that there was going to be a need to validate. Mr. Scheel read what was in the Order. Mr. Aschbrenner responded that they built their system to use the Duns number. He also said that if they are given a number they do not validate with Duns and Bradstreet but just assumed what the customer gave them was correct. The group stated that GISB needed to get back to D&B on accuracy of the information. Mr. Scheel stated the information needed to be fixed there and that it would not work without D&B validating the data that is on the GISB site. He noted that

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the D&B name was the best option. Mr. Keisler asked if it was the best alternative. He stated the pipeline name might be a better alternative. Mr. Young asked whether the D&B name could not be provided until the proprietary name could be resolved. Mr. Keisler responded that it did not make sense from an economical view and what was the benefit of going in and making it just like D&B? Mr. Young also agreed there may be problems with using the D&B name. Mr. Scheel responded that he did not think the Order was allowing for that. He said the Order was asking for use of the D&B name not the TSP proprietary name. Ms. Hopkins asked if there was any spot-checking done when using the D&B. Mr. Keisler responded that they did not validate the name with D&B. He stated that as long as the names were similar and not significantly different they did not revise the name as it was given. Mr. Aschbrenner stated the goal was to get something out there that meant something to a person who used it. Mr. Keisler then made the following motion:

**Motion:**

**The information that goes into the name field associated with the Duns number be the TSP's version of the name, assuming that the TSP has verified that the name and number correspond to each other.**

Mr. Aschbrenner seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Novak asked if there was also a presumption that the TSP is scrutinizing the data. Is it the intent that the DUNS number is what is the common name and then there is a local name? Mr. Keisler responded that the central repository would have the common name and the local name would be used in situations where multiple names exist. He stated the TSP was scrutinizing its database so that it could be one of these multiple names. Mr. Keisler stated that one of the names in the file should correspond with one of the names in the database. He also said that if they had already set up a customer they would tell them what they had for their name and then it would be one of the names in the GISB database. If it were not in the database then it would give the, another name in the central repository.

**Vote:**

7 in favor

2 abstained

The group will report back to the Executive Committee at their October 12 meeting.

**III. Wrap-up**

Next meeting date – the group decided there was no need for any further meetings

**IV. The meeting adjourned at 2:40pm**

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## V. Attendees

Name	Voting	Company
Hess, Theresa	Abstain	Enron - Transwestern
Hopkins, Tammy	Abstain	Enron - Northern Natural
Scheel, Mark	X	Dynegy
Keisler, Jim	X	Williams Gas Pipeline
Young, Randy	X	Koch Midstream Services
Aschbrenner, Clancy	X	CIG
LeCureaux, Stephanie	X	ANR Pipeline
Barnett, Sandra	X	Koch Gateway
Novak, Mark	X	National Fuel

X – in favor