

North American Energy Standards Board

1100 Louisiana, Suite 3625, Houston, Texas 77002
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: gisb@aol.com
Home Page: www.gisb.org

TO: EDM Subcommittee Chairs (Dick Brooks, Carl Caldwell, Leigh Spangler)
Posting for Interested Industry Participants

FROM: Rae McQuade, Executive Director

RE: **Final** Minutes for the EDM Subcommittee - February 28, 2002

DATE: March 04, 2002

**NORTH AMERICAN ENERGY STANDARDS BOARD
EDM SUBCOMMITTEE
Thursday, February 28, 2002 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. CST
FINAL MEETING MINUTES**

Attendees:

Dick Brooks - Systrends
Theresa Hess – Transwestern
Richard Hamilton - Williams
Randy Young - GulfSouth Pipeline
Chris Burden – Williams
Leigh Spangler - Latitude

Leigh started the meeting at 2:12 CST

Dick agree to take minutes:

Leigh read the antitrust statement

Leigh read the Agenda and asked if there were changes. Theresa Hess mentioned the previous EDM meeting minutes should be reviewed and adopted. After some discussion it was decided that this item would be taken up at a later meeting.

Dick requested an additional agenda item to review the timeline and schedule of events leading up to the final release of 1.6. Dick made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended, this was seconded by Richard Hamilton and the motion passed with no objections.

The following requests were included on the meeting agenda:

- R01020 - XML support
- R01019 - REFNUM header element
- R01016 - Open PGP support

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Discussion began with a review of request R01020

Dick described need for an additional identifier, XML, in the input-format header element. Systrends, on behalf of ERCOT, submitted this request in order to allow existing Market Participants in Texas to use the GISB EDM standard for exchanging XML documents.

Attendees agreed there are no technical issues to overcome for this addition to GISB EDM. However, concerns were raised over the scope of this change. Currently, the wholesale gas quadrant has no need to support XML and therefore this request could not be justified, based purely on the needs of the wholesale gas quadrant. Leigh stated that this clearly was not needed by the wholesale gas quadrant, and this request would be more appropriate for the Retail or Wholesale Electric Quadrants, once they are established. Dick stressed the urgency of this matter could not wait until after the other quadrants are established because ERCOT is on a timeline to implement by summer, 2002. Any delay past March 15 to adopt these changes as part of GISB EDM 1.6 would force ERCOT to choose another transport option, other than GISB EDM, for Market Participants using XML to encode business transactions.

Dick made a motion to add an XML identifier to the input-format header element of GISB EDM. There were no seconds for the motion and the motion was rescinded by Dick. Dick requested that the request remain open for discussion at the next meeting.

R01019:

Dick explained that ERCOT requires the ability to track documents throughout their entire life cycle. In order to provide comprehensive, end to end, tracking ERCOT requires a static "Message Identifier", called REFNUM, within the header level of a GISB EDM message. REFNUM is presently a supported header element, in accordance with EDIINT AS2.

Just as a trans-id element within a GISB EDM timestamp receipt contains a static identifier for a particular acknowledgement receipt, REFNUM serves a similar purpose as a static identifier for a particular message, transported via GISB EDM.

Richard Hamilton made the observation that "meta data", such as what ERCOT is requesting with REFNUM, can be accommodated by other means, for example through a file naming nomenclature. Dick pointed out that file names are not static and that often times a filename cannot be guaranteed to remain constant over time and is sometimes "lost" during transmission between companies. Dick suggested that a "standard" header element, REFNUM, within GISB EDM would ensure that a static Message Identifier carried, end to end, would enable ERCOT to track a message throughout the entire life cycle.

No consensus was reached and no motion was brought forward. The group agreed to leave this item open for discussion at the next meeting.

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R01016:

Due to the limited time available on the call this item was postponed to the next meeting.

The last agenda item was a discussion of the timeline and milestones leading up to the next release of GISB EDM. Leigh indicated that April 18th was the final day for the EC to vote on changes to NAESB Gas Wholesale standards that would be included in version 1.6. Furthermore, any proposed changes would have to be received by the NAESB office by March 15th, in order to accommodate a 30-day review by the NAESB membership prior to the EC meeting. The EDM Subcommittee agreed to submit proposed changes, if any, for version 1.6 to the NAESB office no later than March 14th.

The next meeting will be held on March 6th from 9-11 CST. Discussions will resume with request R01019, R01016 and wrap up with a final discussion on R01020.
The meeting adjourned at 4:10 PM CST.