



Gas Industry Standards Board

1100 LOUISIANA, SUITE 4925

HOUSTON, TEXAS, 77002

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March 5, 1998

TO: Ad Hoc Task Force of Executive Committee for EBB-Internet Transition Planning: Rae McQuade, Mike Bray, Jerry Hahn, Tom Ehinger, Tommie Hartmann, Jim Buccigross, Mark Scheel, Dona Gussow, Laurie Valasek, Shelley Corman, Norm Walker, Bob Betonte, Mike Novak

FROM: Rae McQuade, Executive Director

RE: EBB-Internet Transition Plan Conference Call on the Board Meeting

The Board of Directors met on March 3 and passed a resolution to modify the draft EBB Transition Plan, discussed during the Annual Plan Update agenda item. This modified transition plan (attached, red-lined) will be reported to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in GISB's March 31 filing. Mr. Bray and Mr. Hahn reviewed the discussions at the Board meeting.

Mr. Hahn summarized pages 32 through 34 of the NOPR address the EBB transition plan:

- (1) Each pipeline EBB with its differences is not in the best interest of the industry and GISB has not responded to this need.
- (2) Shippers need to transact business across pipelines without incurring additional costs to train personnel.
- (3) GISB should respond to these issues.
- (4) Pipelines are to provide an Internet solution to transacting business electronically.

He added that the producer segment perspective is that the Internet "Common Look and Feel" web pages should contain both non-transactional and transactional information. Mr. Bray noted that the phrase "Using only Internet procedures and protocols" is unclear, to which several on the call agreed. Mr. Buccigross voiced a different perspective from the one cited by Mr. Hahn that with GISB standard 4.3.6, that the transactional information should be standardized through EDI across the Internet, and the posting should be standardized on Internet web pages. Mr. Scheel supported Mr. Hahn's position and pointed to the intent of GISB standard 4.3.6. Mr. Novak noted that one pipeline has moved their functions to the Internet, which has been very successfully received by its firm shippers, and has posed an impediment to the use of EDI. Mr. Novak noted while Mr. Buccigross' view was meeting the letter of the request in the regulations and in standard 4.3.6, the LDC segment supports the producer's segment view.

Mr. Hahn added that the purpose of the call is not to argue the merits of each position but to drill down through the members of this committee of what is meant by the NOPR and GISB standard 4.3.6. The views expressed for the models of what is to be included in the plan are:

- (1) EDI and "common look and feel" standardized web sites for postings (the Jim Buccigross model)
- (2) EDI, "common look and feel" standardized web site for postings and a common front end on the web site for transactions (the Carl Caldwell model),
- (3) EDI, "common look and feel" standardized web site for postings with a browser compatibility for EBBs including transactions (the Norm Walker model),
- (4) EDI, "common look and feel" standardized web site for posting and common front end for transactions interfaced with the provider's EBB through EDI (the Mark Scheel model), and
- (5) EDI, "common look and feel" standardized web site for both postings and transactions (the Jerry Hahn model).



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Discussion was held on the extent to which standardization for pipeline EBBs on the Internet is needed with the requirement of "one mode of communication". Mr. Novak noted a functional standardization model:

- (1) The common front end, navigation and presentation would be the same but the content areas would not be standard. This could be applied to several of the models described.

By next Tuesday, March 17, descriptions will be provided on each to the GISB office. The following assignments were made for preparation of the descriptions:

- | | | |
|----------------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Jim Buccigross | (1) | EDI and "common look and feel" standardized web sites for postings (the Jim Buccigross model) |
| Carl Caldwell | (2) | EDI, "common look and feel" standardized web site for postings and a common front end on the web site for transactions (the Carl Caldwell model), |
| Norm Walker | (3) | EDI, "common look and feel" standardized web site for postings with a browser compatibility for EBBs including transactions (the Norm Walker model), |
| Mark Scheel | (4) | EDI, "common look and feel" standardized web site for posting and common front end for transactions interfaced with the provider's EBB through EDI (the Mark Scheel model), and |
| Jerry Hahn | (5) | EDI, "common look and feel" standardized web site for both postings and transactions (the Jerry Hahn model). |
| Mike Novak | (6) | The common front end, navigation and presentation would be the same but the content areas would not be standard. |

A meeting will be scheduled for March 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Wyndham Warwick, and the times for the Executive Committee meeting will be changed.

Attendees:

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Present</u>
Members:	Bob Betonte	Southern California Gas	X
	Mike Novak	National Fuel Gas Distribution	✓
	Shelley Corman	Enron Gas Pipeline Group	X
	Norm Walker	El Paso Natural Gas	✓
	Jim Buccigross	National Registry	✓
	Mark Scheel	NGC Corp	✓
	Tommie Hartmann	Exxon	X
	Tom Ehinger	Amoco	X
	Dona Gussow	Florida Power and Light	X
	Laurie Valasek	Midland Cogeneration Venture	✓
	Mike Bray	Duke Energy	✓
	Jerry Hahn	Texaco Natural Gas	✓
	Rae McQuade	GISB	✓
Observers:	Sylvia Munson	Altra Streamline	✓



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Attachment 1

GAS INDUSTRY STANDARDS BOARD
EBB INTERNET TRANSITION PLAN
AS OF FEBRUARY 27, 1998
AMENDED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS -- MARCH 3, 1998

1. On March 19, the team will request that the Executive Committee re-prioritize requests R97111 and R97120 for immediate attention by the appropriate subcommittees.
2. On March 19, assuming a simple majority vote from the Executive Committee to re-prioritize the requests, the chairmen of the appropriate subcommittees, defined by the Executive Committee in approval of the triage recommendations, will be notified of the expedited treatment for R97111 and R97120.
3. After the Internet standards for the postings on web sites are approved by the Executive Committee, they will be reviewed for applicability to the transactional-based Internet web sites. The Executive Committee will determine the appropriate group to perform the review and draft the recommendations to be sent to the Executive Committee for its consideration.
- ~~4. For the GISB comments regarding the development of this plan, to be filed on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Docket No. RM96-1-007, the Commission will be requested to provide additional information on its intent on the transition from EBB dial-up systems to Internet based transactional web sites. Statements will be included in the filing noting that due to the diversity of opinions regarding the transition from EBB dial-up systems to Internet based transactional web sites, cited both in the Executive Committee meeting transcripts of February 12, 1998, and the comments previously filed with the Commission on RM96-1-007, that the remainder of the plan cannot be completed until further information is received from the Commission.~~
4. *GISB has currently underway a concerted effort to draft a transition plan which addresses a migration for the industry regarding communication modality. The Board of Directors (BOD) has established a deadline of June 1, 1998 for the Executive Committee (EC) (and its related Task Forces) to report the results of its work. The EC is instructed to "drill down" to determine if there is EC consensus (17/2) on the "roadmap" that the industry will take in this migration. If consensus is reached by the EC, the results will be reported to the BOD by June 1. If consensus is not reached on a "single path," the EC will report back by June 1 on the several alternatives considered regarding the migration.*
- ~~5. The development of the remainder of the plan will be postponed until the final order on Rulemaking Docket No. RM96-1-007 is released from the Commission.~~
5. *The plan ("roadmap") or alternatives will be presented to the Board of Directors by June 1, for discussion at its June 18 Board meeting.*