

Statement on Behalf of the GISB Producer Segment

Representatives of the Producer Segment in GISB have participated in the “CAMEL” coalition and in the numerous meetings to bring about GISB standards for Internet Web Sites that would achieve greater simplicity and efficiency across the North American pipeline grid. We have done so with the expectation that this would be accomplished when the idiosyncrasies that currently exist among the separately developed Electronic Bulletin Boards substantially give way to the “Common Look and Feel” objective in the Internet Web Site standards of GISB. The Producer Segment very much wants “Common Look and Feel” to succeed especially in light of escalating state unbundling efforts. An effective set of standards is needed from this GISB effort in order to lead the industry to greater simplicity and efficiencies across the pipeline grid.

We applaud the progress made! **However**, “until this cake is completely baked, it should not be eaten”. The EII Task Force has ordered one data element in each functional group in the FORM area of the Nomination site. We continue to support our offer of “no ordering” in the MATRIX area to accommodate the concerns of certain TSPs. However the concerns of producer-shippers for greater ordering in the FORM are going unanswered. From our viewpoint, the level of standardization in the FORM area isn’t enough. With the latitude to arrange the remaining GISB standardized data elements and other non-standardized data elements offered by individual TSPs in any manner they choose, these standards proposals will fall short of truly achieving “Common Look and Feel”. Companies developed their EBBs without the benefit of standards and similar results will occur if “completely baked” standards are not available through GISB.

The Producer Segment membership met recently and unanimously agreed that we should clearly convey to the GISB membership that we cannot support **any** EII standards recommendations without further progress to achieve the objective of “Common Look and Feel” across the North American pipeline grid.