



North American Energy Standards Board

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via email and posting

TO: NAESB Wholesale Electric Quadrant (WEQ) Information Technology Subcommittee Meeting Participants and Posting for Interested Parties

FROM: Todd Oncken, Deputy Director

RE: WEQ Information Technology Meeting Final Minutes – February 16-17, 2004

DATE: March 2, 2004

**WEQ Information Technology Subcommittee Meeting
February 16-17, 2004
New Orleans, LA
Final Minutes**

1. Welcome

Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order and welcomed meeting participants. Mr. Oncken gave the antitrust advice. The agenda was reviewed and adopted by consent.

Ms. Rehman moved, seconded by Mr. Dison, to adopt the October 8, 2003 WEQ Information Technology Subcommittee (ITS) minutes without modification. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Rehman moved, seconded by Ms. Mendrala, to adopt the December 2-3, 2003 WEQ ITS minutes without modification. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Review of Requests R04005, R04006 & R04007

Mr. Johnson reviewed Requests R04005, R04006 and R04007. He noted all three requests will be discussed by the Joint Interface Committee on February 19, 2004. Further, he noted subcommittee assignments for each of the requests will be made at the February WEQ Executive Committee meeting.

Request R04005: Mr. Johnson explained the purpose behind Request R04005 was to adopt the current OASIS business practices and S&CP as NAESB WEQ standards. Further, it was noted that this step was necessary so that the ITS and Electronic Scheduling Subcommittee (ESS) could propose any necessary modifications to the current business practices or S&CP. Mr. Johnson stated Request R04005 was being adopted through an expedited process and the recommendation for Request R04005 would be considered by the WEQ Executive Committee at its February meeting. It was noted that although it is expected the Executive Committee will assign the request to the ESS, the ITS would take ownership of the S&CP should the recommendation pass and be ratified by the WEQ membership.

Participants discussed the request and recommendation. Ms. Rehman questioned whether the request and recommendation was based on the current version of all referenced documents, especially Attachment D - *Revisions to Section 4.2.10.2 of the S&CP Document, 4.2.10.2, Status Values*. The subcommittee did not have sufficient information in the meeting to make a recommendation on the issue, so it was agreed that Ms. Rehman would work with the NAESB Office to determine if this was the correct document.

Request R04006: Mr. Johnson stated Request R04006 relates to the OASIS 1A Issues document provided by the OASIS Scheduling Collaborative (OSC). Mr. Johnson reviewed the history of the issue, noting that the ITS OASIS 1A Task Force reviewed the OSC document and made recommendation to the Executive Committee on how to proceed. Request R04006



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references the report of the task force. Mr. Johnson stated it is anticipated the Executive Committee will assign the request jointly to the ITS and ESS.

Mr. Wood, chair of the ITS OASIS 1A Task Force, stated that the task force has held a conference call with the ESS OASIS 1A Task Force, led by Mr. Harshbarger, to begin the task of the request. That report is shown below.

Request R04007: Mr. Johnson stated this request is for the development of OASIS Phase II. He stated it is expected the Executive Committee will assign the request jointly to the ITS and ESS.

3. Review of recent Executive Committee & Electronic Scheduling Subcommittee events

WEQ Executive Committee: Mr. Johnson reported that the Executive Committee met in December 2003 and took the following actions: 1) approved the draft 2004 WEQ Annual Plan for forwarding to the NAESB Board of Directors; 2) welcomed Mr. Oberski as the chairman for 2004; and 3) approved the meeting schedule. Participants briefly discussed methods to track the status of WEQ requests. Ms. McQuade stated all NAESB requests are posted together on the Request for Standards page, and that page notes their status in the standards development process. She noted there has been a request to split out the WEQ requests to a different page, and the logistics of that request are being reviewed.

Electronic Scheduling Subcommittee: Mr. Dison reported that the ESS met in December and has held a couple of teleconferences. The next ESS meeting is scheduled for February 17-18 in New Orleans.

4. Report from the OASIS 1A Task Force

Mr. Wood reported on the ITS OASIS 1A Task Force. He stated the ITS and ESS Oasis 1A Task Forces held a joint conference call on February 13 to begin work on Request R04006. Mr. Wood stated the group had a healthy discussion of all the issues and decided that all five issues warranted further discussion and evaluation. It was noted that part of the evaluation would be whether the item is a business practice issue or S&CP issue. Mr. Harshbarger suggested that the task forces would be open to diverse solutions and not necessarily restricted by the status quo.

The debate of the issues was briefly discussed. Ms. Rehman commented that on the issue of redirect, there was a discussion regarding the difference between resale and reassignment, and whether redirect rights follow either. Also, she noted the discussion revealed the need to clarify the definitions of each situation. Further, she said the group will research and determine if FERC has made rulings on point. Mr. Dison encouraged the task forces to not limit their discussions because of potential tariff issues. It was noted that if the FERC chooses to adopt NAESB standards that diverge from current tariff language, tariff changes through the FERC process would likely be required since the tariffs would no longer be consistent with the regulations.

The task force discussed the deliverables of the task force. However, Mr. Wood stated the task force has just begun its work, so it could be some time before a recommendation for standards is complete. It was noted that a single request could produce several, discrete recommendations to the Executive Committee. The determination of how to proceed depends on the level of interconnection of the proposed standards, as well as determinations by the subcommittees and task forces. Mr. Johnson noted the Executive Committee would probably



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support multiple recommendations for this request if the task force felt that was the most appropriate way to proceed.

5. Report from the OASIS II Structural Design Task Force

Ms. Mendrala and Mr. Mitreski reported on the OASIS II Structural Design Task Force. Mr. Mitreski provided a brief overview of the report, which was posted as a workpaper for the meeting. Participants discussed the report. Ms. Mendrala focused on the list of open questions prepared by the task force and included in the report. Mr. Johnson commented that the report indicates that the use cases were not sufficiently developed for the ITS to begin working on technical specifications for OASIS Phase II.

The next steps for the task force were discussed. Ms. Mendrala and Mr. Mitreski stated the task force needed feedback before it would feel comfortable finalizing the document for distribution outside the ITS. It was agreed to distribute the report to the ESS and ITS NAESBMail lists for comment prior to the next ITS meeting. The request for comments will note that the report is based on the ESC use cases. The OASIS II Structural Design Task Force will gather and evaluate the comments before the next ITS meeting. At the next ITS meeting, the task force will report on the comments and present a modified report, if appropriate.

The report from the OASIS II Structural Design Task Force led to a general discussion of OASIS Phase II development. Discussion revealed that decisions between the ITS and ESS needed to be made on how to move forward on OASIS Phase II. The following points were made:

- The work of the ESS and ITS is interdependent for OASIS Phase II, as evidenced by the OASIS II Structural Design Task Force report indicating more use case development was necessary before the technical design work could begin.
- A use case identifies the parties involved in transactions and the data flow per function.
- The designers of the OASIS Phase II use cases were instructed to not address business practice issues.
- The critical high-level documents for OASIS Phase II development include 1) the use cases and system requirements; 2) the functional design; and 3) business practices.
- The ESS and ITS should take control of the three key documents for OASIS Phase II development.
- The ESS and ITS will need to decide whether breaking the use cases down and working on OASIS Phase II incrementally would provide efficiencies or reduce flexibility for the complete package.
- If the ESS and ITS decide the incremental approach would be appropriate, benchmarks should be established to monitor the progress of the complete OASIS Phase II.
- The ESS and ITS should be proactive in informing the industry about any milestones for OASIS Phase II.
- The ESS and ITS will meet jointly to address OASIS Phase II issues for the next several months.

6. Report on Request R04011 – possible OASIS requirements from FERC Order 2003



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Ms. Rehman reported on Request R04011. She stated the request has been processed by the NAESB Triage Subcommittee, found in NAESB scope and assigned to the WEQ. Ms. Rehman explained that there are a number of reporting requirements in FERC Order 2003, including 18 new OASIS posting requirements. Ms. Rehman stated the Order does not provide much implementation guidance, so the subcommittee could approach it in several different ways. The ITS recognized this request as an additional OASIS 1A enhancement and assigned it to the ITS OASIS 1A Issues Task Force for further action. The ITS generally supported the least impact alternative to preserve resources for work on OASIS Phase II. A report on Request R04011 and the task force's recommendation on how to proceed will be given at the next ITS meeting.

7. Report on e-MARC Issues

Mr. Johnson stated that Mr. Keating will report on this issue at the next meeting. Mr. Sorenson noted the most current policy document was posted at the end of January for comment by the PKI Steering Committee, but it did not state any deadline for comments or timetable for next steps or implementation.

8. Update on TSIN Registry

Mr. Johnson referred participants to recent correspondence from NERC stating NERC's position on maintaining the TSIN database. Mr. Johnson summarized that NERC would maintain the current database, but discussions about future actions could be needed as a result of OASIS Phase II design.

Participants generally discussed the TSIN Registry. Mr. Rodriguez suggested implementing common codes could provide immediate value for market participants. He added that although OASIS was intended to use the registry, most of the OASIS implementations do not synchronize with the TSIN Registry. Ms. Rehman noted concerns on the integrity and timeliness of some of the data in the registry. Mr. Johnson suggested those issues could be addressed by NERC's current efforts to upgrade the registry. It was agreed to develop a list of concerns with the current registry for submission to NERC, possibly through the Markets Committee. The goal of the letter would be to express the concerns to NERC and open lines of communication. Though no formal liaisons to the NERC effort were named, it was noted that both Ms. Rehman and Mr. Stone have been active in the NERC Registry Task Force. The NAESB Office will follow up with NERC regarding the registry.

9. Update on NERC Subcommittees (Interchange Subcommittee, Markets Committee)

Mr. Johnson reviewed several items of correspondence regarding ETAG issues. Mr. Johnson stated the correspondence was presented for informational purposes and should not directly impact the ITS. The ITS agreed the ETAG discussion did not directly affect the ITS at the present time, but it was noted the discussion could have impacts on OASIS Phase II development efforts.

Mr. Johnson gave a general report on the NERC standing committees. He stated the Interchange Subcommittee (IS) is working through several aspects of the recent AIE survey that contains a lot of information on the August blackout. Additionally, it was noted that the IS is working through a review of NERC Policy 3. Ms. Rehman reported on the Markets Committee (MC). She stated the MSSCWG, a working group of the MC, has completed its review of the NAESB Seams Catalog and has identified those items it views are reliability related. It was noted NAESB completed a similar process in preparation for the February JIC meeting.



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Further, Ms. Rehman stated the MSSCWG is working on evaluating NERC's Facility Rating Standard and Balancing Resources and Demand Standard for potential business practices. The MSSCWG is expected to give its report on those items at the March MC meeting.

10. New Business

OASIS Phase II – Approaching the Problem: Mr. Rodriquez gave a presentation titled, *OASIS Phase II – Approaching the Problem*, that was meant to begin general discussion on strategy and philosophy. Mr. Rodriquez's presentation is available on the NAESB website. The presentation contained information on: core objectives for OASIS Phase II; current and ongoing efforts; collaboration focused on NAESB, NERC and the ISO Council; a suggested timeline; a three-phased approach to development and implementation; and next steps.

Mr. Rodriquez's presentation was discussed at length. It was suggested that the phased implementation approach could provide incremental value, but the industry should have a good idea of the OASIS Phase II end state. Ms. Rehman noted that ISO/IRC participation in the development process was key. Additionally, Ms Rehman suggested that a chart would be a good tool to use to monitor OASIS Phase II development. It was noted that a development and implementation process which integrates existing systems and is easy for industry participants to understand would be a good approach. Mr. Rosenberg commented that FERC's vision is a system that would be seamless for the user. Mr. Rodriquez agreed that was the ultimate goal, but suggested progress could be achieved before the ultimate goal is achieved.

Next Meetings: It was agreed that future ITS meetings should be coordinated with the ESS so that the groups could meet jointly. Meetings would be held ITS in the afternoon of day one, joint on day two, and ESS on the morning of day three. The following meeting schedule was developed and proposed to the ESS: April 5-7; May 25-27; July 27-29; September 28-30; and November 17-19. The ESS subsequently approved the meeting schedule.

The following agenda items were discussed for the next meeting: OASIS Phase 1A Issues; Request R04011; OASIS Phase II Structural Design Task Force; report on e-MARC issues; standing items (report on the EC, NERC standing committees, other industry updates); OASIS Phase II development overview. It was noted some items would be addressed in the joint meeting.

11. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 am Central on February 17, 2004.

12. Attendance

Name	Organization	Day One	Day Two
Dan Baisden	Southern Company	In Person	In Person
Richard Bishop	PacifiCorp	Phone	Phone
Christopher Burden	Williams Gas Pipeline	In Person	In Person
Kevin Burns	OATI	In Person	In Person
John Calder	Dominion	Phone	Phone
Jim Cargas	NAESB	Phone	
John Conlan	MISO		Phone



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Joel Dison	Southern Company	In Person	In Person
Bob Harshbarger	Puget Sound Energy	In Person	In Person
Jim Hartwell	NPCC	In Person	In Person
Marcel Harvey	Transenergie	In Person	In Person
Bert Gumm	IPC		In Person
Alan Johnson	Mirant	In Person	In Person
Rae McQuade	NAESB Executive Director	In Person	In Person
Cheryl Mendrala	ISO NE	In Person	In Person
Aleks Mitreski	Entergy	In Person	In Person
Lou Oberski	Dominion	In Person	In Person
Todd Oncken	NAESB Deputy Director	In Person	In Person
Barbara Rehman	Bonneville Power Administration	In Person	In Person
Andy Rodriquez	PJM		In Person
Marv Rosenberg	FERC	In Person	In Person
Robert Sherick	Sungard	Phone	Phone
Paul Sorenson	OATI	Phone	Phone
Larry Stone	SoftSmiths	In Person	In Person
Lisa Szot	CAISO	In Person	In Person
Veronica Thomason	NAESB Staff	In Person	In Person
Andy Tritch	Sungard		Phone
James T. Wood	Southern Company	In Person	In Person