



## Gas Industry Standards Board

1100 Louisiana, Suite 4925, Houston, Texas 77002

Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: gisb@aol.com

Home Page: www.gisb.org

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**TO:** GISB XML Subcommittee Distribution List & Posting for Interested Industry Participants

**FROM:** Rae McQuade, Executive Director  
Bill Hunsicker, co-chairman, GISB XML Subcommittee  
Peter Goldberg, co-chairman, GISB XML Subcommittee

**RE:** Final Minutes from the GISB XML Subcommittee Meeting

**DATE:** January 8, 2001

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### GAS INDUSTRY STANDARDS BOARD

#### GISB XML SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING & CONFERENCE CALL

1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Central, December 4, 2000

#### FINAL MINUTES

##### **I. Administrative**

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. central. Mr. Hunsicker welcomed participants, attendees identified themselves, and Mr. Hunsicker read the GISB antitrust statement. Mr. Hunsicker chaired the meeting and Mr. Goldberg was identified as the co-chair of the group. The agenda was adopted with the understanding that it was unlikely that the group could get through the entire agenda item no. 2.

##### **II. Draft Plan**

On the review of directive, the group should determine if it is worthwhile to continue proceeding with XML. Several related trade associations have endorsed or are leaning towards endorsement of XML. Virginia, as it deregulates, is also considering the use of XML. Washington Gas is very active and may also work toward a pilot test. On the pilot test, benefits may be more easily ascertained if the test develops XML transactions for which there is already an EDI counterpart. The pilot test could also be used to develop a new transaction supportive of gas retail deregulated activities in various states and allow for working with other groups, such as UIG - which could provide different benefits to GISB rather than the EDI X12/XML comparisons.

It was noted that should the pilot test be directed toward XML development of an existing EDI transaction, it might be difficult to get an EDI shop to direct its attentions to XML. A pilot test of the development of an online transaction with XML may provide greater benefits - such as an XML development of an online electronic contract. It is possible to develop the XML transaction both for online processing and batch processing. The majority of attendees agreed that if the pilot addressed other than a simple XML comparison of an existing EDI transaction, more benefits would be realized.

Defining a style sheet as part of the pilot was mentioned. It was noted that one of the imbalances netting and trading transactions would be more appropriate than the electronic contract because the information requirements for imbalance netting and trading have been defined. There was general agreement to the suggestion to use an imbalance netting and trading transaction. Several pilot tests could go on simultaneously to test the various functions of XML, and the plan does not preclude such - it is really dependent on the number of volunteers. After additional discussion, it was noted that XML should be offered as an alternative rather than a replacement. There was general agreement on the proposal that if the pilot project were successful,



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the group would recommend that the transactions could be developed in either ANSI ASC X12 EDI or XML, at the choice of the developer. On the other end, the recipient of the transaction could receive either XML or EDI and use a translator to move the information into their systems.

Where the repository (web server) for XML schemas is to be hosted is an issue that should be addressed. For the pilot, the schema could be sent each time or maintained on the GISB web site. It could possibly be hosted from the GISB web site if the schemas were static.

The plan was reviewed for action items and dates and several clarifying changes were made. The attendees to this meeting will review the draft plan (attached) and via email note their agreement or suggested changes to more appropriately represent the discussions held at today's meeting. If there is general endorsement of the draft plan, it will be presented to the EC at its December 14 meeting.

### III. Next Meeting & Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm. The next meeting will be a face-to-face meeting, held on Monday, January 8 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm in Houston. The GISB office will ask a member company to sponsor the meeting at their offices. The chairs will determine the draft agenda shortly – and the purpose of the meeting is to review the plan, make assignments and begin designing the pilot test(s).

### IV. Attendees

GISB Member	Segment	Name	Organization
✓	LDC	Shahan, Mike	Dominion Resources
✓	Pipeline	Stender, Mike	El Paso Natural Gas
✓	Pipeline	Lehn, Terry	Enron Transportation Services Group
✓	Services	<b>Hunsicker, Bill</b>	<b>Excelergy</b>
✓	Producer	Perrin, Mark	PanCanadian Petroleum
<b>X</b>	Services	Mastin, Wayne	SCT Corp.
✓	Pipeline	Matthews, Brian	WBI Holdings
✓	GISB Office	McQuade, Rae	GISB
✓	Pipeline	<b>Goldberg, Peter</b>	<b>Westcoast Energy</b>
✓	Pipeline	Keisler, Jim	Williams Gas Pipeline