

## Joint Interchange Scheduling Working Group Meeting

*August 29–30, 2007*

*Vancouver, BC, Canada*

### **Meeting Minutes**

A meeting of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) Joint Interchange Scheduling Working Group (JISWG) was held on August 29–30, 2007 in Vancouver, BC, Canada. The meeting announcement, agenda, and attendance list are attached as **Exhibits A, B, and C**, respectively. Individual statements and minority opinions are affixed as **Exhibits D and E**. There were none.

JISWG co-chairs Jim Hansen and Bob Harshbarger presided.

#### **Antitrust Compliance Guidelines**

Secretary Vandervort acknowledged the NERC Antitrust Compliance Guidelines.

#### **Minutes of the Previous Meetings**

Andy Tritch moved to approve the July 6, 2007 JISWG conference call minutes. The JISWG adopted the minutes by unanimous consent.

Brett Fisher moved to approve the July 30–August 1, 2007 JISWG meeting minutes. The JISWG adopted the minutes by unanimous consent.

#### ***JISWG Roster***

The JISWG discussed the option of having an official roster. NAESB generally allows anyone that participates in a meeting or conference call to have a voice and voting privileges. By unanimous consent, the JISWG will not have an official roster. However, anyone that wishes to participate in a JISWG conference call or meeting is welcome to do so. In addition, anyone that wishes to be placed on the JISWG mailing list is welcome. The “JISWG” and “JISWG\_plus” list servers will be combined into a single list server (“JISWG\_plus” list server will be retired). JISWG NERC Secretary Vandervort will send a note to all current “JISWG,” “JISWG\_plus,” “tagven,” and “tagging” list server members to update the contact information and to validate the e-mail lists for accuracy (anyone that does not respond to the request will be deleted from the listservers).

## ***JISWG Members Requested to Serve on NERC Interchange Standard Drafting Team***

NERC Standards Process Manager contacted the JISWG co-chair Bob Harshbarger to inquire if the group had the diversity to be considered for a NERC standard drafting team (SDT). JISWG discussed the possibility of its participating members to form the nucleus of the NERC Interchange standard drafting team to address the revised timing tables SAR. Secretary Vandervort will send a request to the JISWG list servers to determine interest in participation in the above standard drafting team.

## ***E-Tag 1.8***

JISWG co-chairs Jim Hansen and Bob Harshbarger led the JISWG and e-Tag 1.8 vendors discussion of the e-Tag specifications, schema, project implementation plan, industry tutorial/Q&A/information sharing techniques, interoperability vendor testing, and conditional firm discussion.

## **E-Tag 1.8 Specifications and Schema**

The JISWG reviewed a number of issues within the e-Tag 1.8 specifications and the schema. A few additional modifications were made to the e-Tag 1.8 specifications to meet compliance with a revision to the NAESB Coordinate Interchange Standard and to provide correction distribution to parties who may be impacted by corrections to the energy or transmission product code. The latter is necessary for FERC Order 890 implementation. This specification will be the starting point for conditional firm modifications which will be completed by September 14, 2007.

The issues and resulting actions included the following:

- The e-Tag 1.8 specification does not address a Purchasing Selling Entity (PSE) Agent creation request submitted that does not have a start/stop on a minute boundary. Does the JISWG add the clarification to the specification?
  - The Vendors agreed to add validation that will reject any tag submitted that does not start or stop on a minute boundary.
  - The JISWG will modify the specification
- JISWG addressed the token name length identified in INT-BPS-014 (i.e. WECC\_Reserve\_Responsible\_Entity\_Type (36 characters)  
The token field is too short, currently the field is set to 32 characters. Does the JISWG increase the number of characters?
  - Expand to 128 characters in the schema
- MCG wants the JISWG to clarify how to correctly calculate request start/end time. Should we have validation on the authority for the following?  
Request start time = earliest of energy start, transmission start, and loss accounting start  
Request end time = latest of energy stop, transmission stop, and loss accounting stop  
MCG requested that request start/end time calculations be changed to the following:  
Start time = energy start  
End time = energy stop
  - Yes, the JISWG will add a validation to require energy profile match loss accounting and transmission profile start and end.
- JISWG addressed and clarified:  
Clarify in Specification — Validation on losses — against Point of Receipt (POR) or Point of Delivery (POD) or not at all

Does a validation need to be added to the specification for validating that the Losses or transmission allocation profiles do not exceed the energy profile?

- The JISWG will modify the specification to validate that the energy profile can be accommodated by the minimum of the POR or POD transmission allocation profiles.
- JISWG will address the need to capture WECC Reserve Sharing Group (RSG) entities
  - The JISWG will develop and provide a file that contains a list of RSG members who are not balancing authorities (BA) and need to be identified as the entity responsible for contingency reserves and the file format will be CSV file, containing the Tagging Entity ID and Tag Code.
  - All of these entities would be PSEs.
  - WECC will place this file on their web site and JISWG will provide the URL to vendors.
  - When JISWG began asking for specific entities who are PSEs and responsible for the reserves, WECC reserve sharing group members began discussion whether or not such a list was required since the BAs who are actually carrying the reserves are already allocating the reserve quantities to the PSE members. RSG members will get back to JISWG with the list.
- Reliability limits and exceptions language within e-Tag 1.8 specification 6.1.4.2.2.2, states the reliability limit are defined for the reliability coordinators, source balancing authority, and sink balancing authority.  
The Transmission Service Providers and Scheduling Entities (those intermediate reliability entities) need to be included.
  - The JISWG will include the transmission service providers and scheduling entities (those intermediate reliability entities) into e-Tag 1.8 Specification 6.1.4.2.2.2.

The JISWG is still receptive to consider any proposed change or enhancement that the NERC and NAESB community, the e-Tag users, the e-Tag vendors, or the electric power industry recommends or proposes. Adopted suggestions or changes may be postponed for future versions of e-Tag since 1.8 changes are being kept to a minimum in order to achieve the December 5, 2007 implementation target.

## **E-Tag 1.8 Project Implementation Plan**

The JISWG modified the e-Tag 1.8 project implementation plan to include additional testing dates, webcast dates, and to update actual dates. See **Exhibit G**.

## **Industry Tutorial / Q&A / Information Sharing Techniques**

The JISWG will provide an overview of the changes that are incorporated into the e-Tag 1.8 specifications and schema, including the reasons for the changes, the general functionality of the e-Tag 1.8 system, and the logic behind the project process. It is the responsibility of the JISWG to describe and justify the e-Tag 1.8 system. The vendors will have the bulk of the educational system for e-Tag 1.8. The vendors will only present the changes and create the training for the new e-Tag 1.8 system (relying on the JISWG to justify the changes).

During previous JISWG meetings, it was emphasized that anyone developing e-Tag software must provide a user guide and educational programs for the use of their software in accordance with the e-Tag 1.8 specifications.

JISWG co-chair Bob Harshbarger will lead the tutorials with support from co-chair Jim Hansen, e-Tag 1.8 vendors, and other JISWG members. The JISWG encourages NERC, NAESB, and interested industry participants to participate in one of the tutorials. The tutorial webcasts details are as follows:

<b>e-Tag 1.8 Tutorial / Questions and Answers Session / Information Sharing</b>			
<b><i>Date</i></b>	<b><i>Time</i></b>	<b><i>Webcast (visual display)</i></b>	<b><i>Dial-In Audio</i></b>
September 7, 2007	2–4 p.m. CDT	Call the NAESB Office (713–356–0060).  At that time, the NAESB Office will provide the URL, access code, and security code.	Phone #: 866–740–1260 Access code: 3560060  Call the NAESB Office, (713–356–0060) for a four digit security access code
September 11, 2007	2–4 p.m. CDT	Location: <a href="https://nerc.webex.com/nerc">https://nerc.webex.com/nerc</a> Topic: Tutorial Password: 091107	NERC Conference bridge/dial in: Phone #: 732–694–2061 Access code: 1123091107#
September 25, 2007	2–4 p.m. CDT	Location: <a href="https://nerc.webex.com/nerc">https://nerc.webex.com/nerc</a> Topic: Tutorial Password: 092507	NERC Conference bridge/dial in: Phone #: 732–694–2061 Access code: 1123092507#

## **e-Tag 1.8 Interoperability Vendor Testing**

Brett Fisher coordinated and facilitated the e-Tag 1.8, interoperability vendor testing that took place on August 7, 9, 13, and 15. Mr. Fisher and the e-Tag 1.8 vendors reported on the vendor testing that took place and summarized the conclusions and recommendations.

Mr. Fisher thanked all vendors that participated in the testing. He thought the test went very well. Some e-Tag 1.8 vendors were not able to participate in the test. If the JISWG has specific parameters that need to be addressed or evaluated, then all vendors including those that were not able to participate in the vendor interoperability testing, should consider testing their software.

Starting on Tuesday, September 4, 2007 and continuing on every Tuesday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., central prevailing time, the e-Tag 1.8 vendors will make their authority and approval service available to perform vendor interoperability testing. Balancing authorities, transmission service providers, and load serving entities are encouraged to contact their vendors to test any parameters they desire. Vendors will be able to interface with other vendors by planning and scheduling the desired testing during the Tuesday windows.

## **Conditional Firm**

The JISWG discussed what was necessary to incorporate the FERC Order 890 “Conditional Firm” parameters into e-Tag 1.8. The JISWG drafted the preliminary specification for implementation of conditional firm in e-Tagging document, **Attachment F**. Messers. Hansen and Harshbarger will incorporate the conditional firm specifications into the e-Tag 1.8 specifications by September 14 and then allow a one week comment period for industry review and input to the revised specifications. Vendor development and testing will proceed with milestones on October 22 and 29. The e-Tag 1.8 — conditional firm schedule is as follows:

<i><b>Date (2007)</b></i>	<i><b>Responsibility</b></i>	<i><b>Action</b></i>
Sep 14	JISWG	Incorporate conditional firm specs into e-Tag 1.8 specifications
Sep 17–21	NERC/NAESB/Industry	Comment window for e-Tag 1.8 specifications with conditional firm criteria
Oct 22	e-Tag 1.8 Vendors	Vendor development of conditional firm formatting
Oct 29	e-Tag 1.8 Vendors	Operational structured vendor testing of e-Tag 1.8 conditional firm criteria
Oct 29–Nov 29	JISWG	Enhance e-Tag 1.8 after vendor conditional firm testing is complete

## **NAESB Request R07007**

The NAESB Executive Committee remanded R07007 back to the JISWG to consider the comments of Ed Davis of Entergy and to hold the business practice standard until the corresponding NERC reliability SAR process is complete. The JISWG reviewed the NAESB Executive Committee draft meeting minutes and the comments submitted by Ed Davis (after the comment period had ended) on behalf of Entergy, see the JISWG August 29–30 meeting agenda.

The comments raised concerns regarding the creation of new rows in the timing table that JISWG had introduced in order to re-introduce the time classifications of “on time” and “late” and to specify the new “ATF” time classification in the standards. Mr. Davis stated that the addition of the new row associated with “late” would require additional, compliance sanctionable, active response requirements. Mr. Davis commented that current standards do not require active response for e-Tags that are late.

The JISWG and participants on the phone discussed the comments and reviewed the existing standards. While some of those present agreed that active approval or denial should not be required for e-Tags that would be classified as “late.” The standards state that active response is required and the consensus of the JISWG meeting was that current standards required active response for any e-Tag that may be submitted, including those that would be classified as “late” and “after the fact.” Therefore R07007 does not create additional, compliance sanctionable, approval requirements. Any entity or individual may submit a standards authorization request (SAR) to modify current standards.

The JISWG will, as stated in the EC motion, wait until the NERC SAR process is final to take further action with R07007. Note that the NERC SAR process is underway, see the “JISWG Members Requested to Serve on NERC Interchange Standard Drafting Team,” located in these meeting minutes.

### ***Transaction Default Ramp Duration***

Larry Goins has questioned the JISWG’s selection of zero as a default ramp duration for reliability adjustments and would like the default to be changed to ten minutes for the Eastern Interconnection and 20 minutes for the Western Interconnection consistent with the NAESB coordinate interchange standards. The JISWG members do not have a vested interest in what the default ramp duration is as long as it can be modified to non-default values by the approval. The JISWG considered the following:

- The current INT Standards do not contain ramp duration specifications or requirements.
- The NAESB Coordinate Interchange Standards do not apply to reliability adjustments, and are instead specific to hourly scheduling intervals (“spread evenly over the top of the hour”).
- The current default ramp rate used in e-Tagging is zero.
- According to OATI, the Interchange Distribution Calculator (IDC) needs to see a zero ramp rate.
- Many BA’s assume zero to mean “as soon as possible” and ramp at whatever rate their physical system allows.
- The approval services can very easily be set up to default a different ramp rate. This exists in most systems already.
- Physical ramp rate will vary by system and over time based on units on-line, etc. This impacts ramp duration.
- For a curtailment call where system reliability is impacted, “as soon as possible” is usually what the reliability entity desires.
- For adjustments that impact future hours, the operator has more time to change the default ramp duration.

In light of this discussion, the JISWG determined that the default ramp duration for reliability adjustments will remain as specified in e-Tag 1.8 until such time as INT Standards are modified to specify a different duration. The e-Tag specification is not a standard; therefore, reliability entities may implement whatever duration they feel is appropriate (since no standards apply to ramp duration). Any entity wishing a different default duration may wish to contact the vendor of their approval software to ensure that a different default may be specified.

### ***e-Tag Registry***

The JISWG created and submitted a NAESB Project Plan R06007, Develop a Wholesale Registry for the Wholesale Electric Quadrant. The project will designate NAESB as the entity that is responsible for contracting with a vendor on behalf of industry participants to provide, update, and maintain a revised registry.

JISWG NERC Secretary Vandervort will contact the appropriate NERC staff to ensure the NERC Technical Committee agrees with this plan. With NERC and NAESB authorization, the JISWG will initiate action on the R06007 registry project.

### ***Dates and Locations of Future Meetings***

Additional meetings or conference calls may be scheduled as necessary for the implementation of the e-Tag 1.8.

<b><i>JISWG 2007 Meeting/Conf Call/Webcast Schedule</i></b>				
	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Coordination</i>
e-Tag 1.8 Tutorial Webcast	Fri, Sep 7	2-4 pm, CDT	Webcast	NAESB
e-Tag 1.8 Tutorial Webcast	Tues, Sep 11	2-4 pm, CDT	Webcast	NERC
e-Tag 1.8 Tutorial Webcast	Tues, Sep 25	2-4 pm, CDT	Webcast	NERC
Meeting	Wed, Oct 3 Thur, Oct 4	10 am-5 pm 9 am-2 pm	Houston, TX	NAESB
Meeting	Thur, Nov 15 Fri, Nov 16	1 pm-5 pm 9 am-Noon	San Francisco, CA	NERC (Follows the IS Meeting)
Meeting	Wed, Dec 19 Thur, Dec 20	10 am-5 pm 9 am-Noon	Houston, TX	NAESB

Respectfully submitted,

*Tom Vandervort*

Thomas J. Vandervort  
Joint Interchange Scheduling Working Group NERC Secretary

