



NORTH AMERICAN ENERGY STANDARDS BOARD

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NAESB PUBLISHES WHOLESALE GAS QUADRANT BUSINESS PRACTICE STANDARDS, VERSION 4.1

Last Friday, September 25, 2026, the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) released Version 4.1 of the Wholesale Gas Quadrant (WGQ) Business Practice Standards, marking the organization's seventeenth publication of standards underpinning the commercial functions of the North American natural gas market. The first version of the WGQ standards was published by the Gas Industry Standards Board, NAESB's predecessor organization, in the Spring of 1996 and subsequently adopted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) and incorporated into the Code of Federal Regulations in July of that same year. Since that time, NAESB has continued to work with its members and the industry at large to develop consensus-based business practice standards that support the wholesale and retail natural gas and electricity markets under its American National Standards Institute accredited process.

WGQ Version 4.1 includes modifications to existing standards and new standards intended to improve coordination between the natural gas and electric markets and were developed in response to recommendations made in the FERC, NERC, and Regional Entity Staff Report on Winter Storm Elliott. These standards were filed with the Commission in December 2024 and have been adopted by the Commission through FERC Order No. 587-AB issued on May 22, 2026. The latest release also updates the NAESB cybersecurity standards to strengthen protections for electronic communications and system access, improving practices for secure communications, authentication, and encryption in light of changing technologies and evolving cybersecurity risks. Version 4.1 incorporates a new standardized contract for the sale and purchase of hydrogen as well as revisions to the NAESB Renewable Natural Gas Addendum made in response to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Biogas Regulatory Reform Rule. Finally, the publication addresses a number of industry standards requests to modify the NAESB technical standards supporting the pipeline nominations, scheduling, invoicing, and capacity release business processes, promoting greater efficiency in those market functions.

The new version was developed by the NAESB WGQ between October 2023 and September 2026 and represents many hours of industry work provided by the dedicated volunteers that contribute to the creation of NAESB standards. As done in the past, an informational filing regarding the new version of standards was submitted to the FERC in Docket No. RM96-1 on the day of publication. Chairman of the NAESB Board of Directors, Michael Desselle, stated, "On behalf of the organization, I would like to express great appreciation to our members as well as the industry volunteers that committed the significant time, effort, and industry expertise required to improve and advance the commercial practices and transactions that the NAESB standards address. Your continued commitment to the NAESB mission and willingness to roll up your sleeves and strive to improve our practices and processes has left an indelible mark on the energy industry and our markets."

NAESB members can access the publication from the NAESB website at <https://naesb.org/wgq/lmp.asp>, and non-members may purchase the publication by submitting a completed materials order form (<https://www.naesb.org/pdf/ordrform.pdf>) or by making a request to the NAESB office for free, view-only access to the standards for a limited time.

For more information, please contact Jonathan Booe, NAESB Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer (713) 356-0060.

The North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) serves as an industry forum for the development and promotion of standards which will lead to a seamless marketplace for wholesale and retail natural gas and electricity, as recognized by its customers, business community, participants, and regulatory entities. It is composed of about three hundred corporate members in the energy industry and many more non-member volunteers who contribute to the drafting and adopting of NAESB standards. To learn more about NAESB, go to www.naesb.org.