##### February 7, 2018

**TO:** All Interested Parties

**FROM:** Elizabeth Mallett, NAESB Deputy Director

**RE: Monthly Update Call – Open Field Message Bus (OpenFMB)**

On the heels of the Open Field Message Bus (OpenFMB) presentation and discussion at this year’s DistribuTECH Conference, the OpenFMB Task Force will soon announce its next meeting to review RMQ.26 – OpenFMB Model Business Practices. As part of 2018 RMQ Annual Plan Item 4 and Standards Request R14008, the task force has been charged with developing security model business practices as necessary.

OpenFMB is composed of a reference architecture and an implementation guideline that enable intelligent devices on the grid’s field area networks to use a nonproprietary platform that consists of Internet protocol (IP) networking, Internet of Things (IoT) messaging protocols, and common semantic models. Following the general, operational, and management model business practices that make up the bulk of RMQ.26, the book also contains XML Schema Definition (XSD) profiles, sample use case scenarios, and Platform Independent Model (PIM) information.

Previously ratified by the NAESB membership in March of 2016, the OpenFMB Model Business practices were subsequently published in Version 3.1 of the NAESB RMQ publication that same month. During the upcoming Open FMB Task Force meeting, the participants will also discuss possible additional use cases to incorporate into the model business practices. Throughout the original development of OpenFMB, the OpenFMB Task Force focused on grid-edge technology, with three microgrid use cases serving as drivers for the effort – Microgrid Optimization, Microgrid Unscheduled Islanding Transition, and Microgrid Island to Grid Connected Transition. Since the publication of Version 3.1, several additional OpenFMB use cases have been considered to address DER Circuit Segment Management, Circuit Segment Optimization, Microgrid Unscheduled Islanding, and Microgrid Reconnection.

As part of this effort, NAESB staff has maintained open lines of communication with the Smart Electric Power Alliance (SEPA) to ensure that the organizations remain coordinated on the project. Ongoing discussions between NAESB and SEPA focus on the potential of an OpenFMB certification program, user group activities, and website management, among other topics.