##### August 10, 2017

**TO:** All Interested Parties

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

**RE: Update to the Board of Directors – WEQ/WGQ** **FERC Forms Subcommittee eForms Effort**

As we close out 2017, the Wholesale Electric Quadrant (WEQ)/Wholesale Gas Quadrant (WGQ) FERC Forms Subcommittee anticipates scheduling another meeting to address the eForms effort. As a background, the work on this annual plan item is in response to the FERC *Order Instituting Proceeding to Develop Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms*[[1]](#footnote-1) issued on April 16, 2015 in Docket No. AD15-11-000. In the order, the Commission explained that Microsoft is no longer supporting Visual FoxPro and requested that the industry consider the transition of certain forms from Visual FoxPro to XML, Forms 1, 1-F, 2, 2-A, 3-Q electric, 3-Q gas, 6, 6-Q, FERC-60 and FERC-714. Additionally, the Commission stated that “[w]orking with the NAESB consensus standards development process to facilitate discussions between Commission staff and industry proved invaluable during the development of eTariff.”[[2]](#footnote-2) After citing this past success of the NAESB process, FERC encouraged the industry to work through NAESB to accomplish this industry objective and hosted a technical conference that included NAESB to begin discussion on the transition to the new submission format.

Since the first WEQ/WGQ FERC Forms Subcommittee meeting in August of 2015, the subcommittee has met sixteen times to review the current forms and develop an action plan. Per the direction of FERC staff, the subcommittee has been focusing on FERC Form 1, including issues related to validations and business rules as well as other related XML design issues. FERC staff has committed to providing the XML and XSD documents for this project and, based on the current schedule, should finish their efforts to complete these documents in the coming months. The FERC Forms Subcommittee will subsequently evaluate the documents and develop business practice standards, including a data dictionary. After the completion of the documentation for FERC Form 1, the work on the remaining forms will quickly fall into place as most of the XML foundational work will have been resolved.

The WGQ/WEQ FERC Forms Subcommittee conference calls and meetings, as all NAESB meetings and conference calls, are open to any interested party. The next meeting will be announced by the NAESB office.

1. *Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms*, 151 FERC ¶ 61,025 (2015). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *Id.* at P 9. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)