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**NAESB Files Wholesale Electric Standards at FERC;
Filing Called 'Landmark Development' for Organization**

HOUSTON – The first filing of wholesale electric standards with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) was made today by the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB).

The standards developed by NAESB's Wholesale Electric Quadrant (WEQ) relate to Version 0, a process whereby NAESB and the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC) worked together to separate the existing NERC reliability operating policies into NERC reliability standards and NAESB business practice standards; FERC regulations implementing the Open Access Same-Time Information System (OASIS); and business practices for standards of conduct guided by FERC Orders 2004-A and 2004-B.

The standards were developed by NAESB's Wholesale Electric Quadrant and ratified by the NAESB membership Dec. 31.

“This filing is a landmark development for NAESB,” said NAESB Board Chairman Michael Desselle, director of public policy, American Electric Power. “While NAESB and its predecessor, the Gas Industry Standards Board, have filed numerous natural gas standards at FERC over the years, this is the first time we have filed standards related to the wholesale electric industry. It shows that NAESB has truly become an energy standards board, not just a single-industry organization.”

At the Dec. 15 open meeting of FERC, Chairman Pat Wood III said that the commission will follow the same procedure with electric standards that it has used for gas standards, “which is to put them out for public comment as a NOPR and then adopt them in our regulations.”

The filing was made in FERC Docket No. RM05-5-000 and can be downloaded from both the FERC and NAESB web sites.

NAESB, formed in January 2002, is an independent and voluntary North American organization that develops and promotes the use of business practices and electronic communications standards for the wholesale and retail natural gas and electricity industries. NAESB is the successor to and is modeled after the Gas Industry Standards Board, which was established in 1994 and now constitutes the Wholesale Gas Quadrant of NAESB. NAESB’s members include over 300 companies and organizations that participate actively in the retail and wholesale natural gas and electricity markets.

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