Gas Industry Standards Board
Request for Initiation of a GISB Standard for Electronic Business Transactions
or Enhancement of an Existing GISB Standard for Electronic Business Transactions

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Date of Request: 20January97

1. Submitting Entity & Address:
   El Paso Natural Gas
   100 N. Stanton
   El Paso, TX 79901

2. Contact Person, Phone #, Fax #, Electronic Mailing Address:
   Name: Norman E. Walker
   Title: Manager, Gas Scheduling
   Phone: 915-496-3052
   Fax: 915-496-2865
   E-mail: walkerne@epenergy.com

3. Description of Proposed Standard or Enhancement:

   We are requesting that the nominations related data sets be modified to include two additional fields: upstream package ID and downstream package ID. These two new fields will have the same relationship with the upstream contract identifier and the downstream contract identifier, respectively, as the current package ID has with the Service Requester Contract.

   Usage of these fields should be Mutually Agreeable (MA).

4. Use of Proposed Standard or Enhancement (include how the standard will be used, documentation on the description of the proposed standard, any existing documentation of the proposed standard, and required communication protocols):

   These two data elements will provide the same differentiation among upstream and downstream transactions as specified in Standard 1.2.5. “A package ID is a way to differentiate between discrete business transactions.”

5. Description of Any Tangible or Intangible Benefits to the Use of the Proposed Standard or Enhancement:

   Standard 1.2.1 states “The level of information required to define a nomination for communications purposes is a line item containing all defined components.”
Standard 1.3.27 states “The key should be composed of: service requester contract (Service Agreement), transaction type, upstream party, upstream contract (when applicable), receipt location (as applicable), downstream party, (as applicable) downstream contract (when applicable), delivery location (as applicable), package ID, capacity type indicator (where mutually agreed), service provider activity code (where mutually agreed). Upon receipt by a service provider from a service requester of a transaction whose key elements match those previously received by the service provider from the service requester, the service provider should then process the begin date/time and end date/time consistent with the intentions of the standard 1.3.7 and then process the rest of the transaction’s data elements consistent with the applicable standards to determine the business results. When data is not supplied (e.g. is not applicable, is not supported or is not mutually agreed upon) the pertinent portion of the key would be determined to be null.”

Standard 1.3.24 states “When used, Package ID should be supported for nominating, scheduling, confirming, allocating, and invoicing (sales and purchase), and not required for transportation invoicing.”

Considering all three of these standards, we believe the upstream and downstream package ID fields are necessary for confirmations in order to achieve the same level of confirmation as the nomination made by the service requester.

By adding these two data elements, the upstream and downstream party will be able to confirm the nomination at the same level as it was nominated.

6. Estimate of Incremental Specific Costs to Implement Proposed Standard or Enhancement:

El Paso Natural Gas’ customers currently use the package ID for all nominating and confirming. There is no additional cost associated directly with implementation of these two fields.

7. Description of Any Specific Legal or Other Considerations:

See item 5 above.

8. If This Proposed Standard or Enhancement Is Not Tested Yet, List Trading Partners Willing to Test Standard or Enhancement (Corporations and contacts):

Package ID has been in general use on El Paso Natural Gas’ pipeline scheduling system since April 1992. There has been considerable use and testing of the concept.
9. If This Proposed Standard or Enhancement Is In Use, Who are the Trading Partners

El Paso Natural Gas, Natural Gas Clearinghouse, Southern California Gas Company, Pacific Gas and Electric, Southwest Gas, Public Service Company of New Mexico, Texaco, Amoco, Chevron, Enron Capital and Trade, etc.

10. Attachments (such as: further detailed proposals, transaction data descriptions, information flows, implementation guides, business process descriptions, examples of ASC ANSI X12 mapped transactions):

The new data elements should be included in the key to allow the differentiation between discrete packages and the confirmation.