R97123
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

Date of Request: November 20, 1997

1. Submitting Entity & Address:
   NATIONAL FUEL GAS DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION
   10 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, NY 14203

2. Contact Person, Phone #, Fax #, Electronic Mailing Address:
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3. Description of Proposed Standard or Enhancement:
   Regarding Invoice Payment: Generally, when a pipeline invoice due date is also a
   non-Business Day, the payment date should be determined by whether the
   previous day is a Business Day. Specifically, as shown in the example below:
   • If the due date is not a Business Day (defined in Standard 3.2.1)
     (e.g., a Saturday) and the previous day is a Business Day, then the
     customer shall remit payment on that previous day (e.g., Friday).
     [This is also illustrated by a payment due date occurring on Thanksgiving
     Thursday -- the payment would be remitted on the previous day,
     Wednesday.]
   • If the due date is not a Business Day (e.g., a Sunday) and the
     previous day also is not a Business Day, then the customer shall
     remit payment on the following Business Day (e.g., Tuesday in the
     event of a Monday holiday).
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):

   The proposed standard would provide pipelines and their customers with a systematic methodology of determining invoice payment due dates, remedying existing payment inequities, particularly over holiday weekends. The standard would provide guidance where a pipeline’s tariff language is either vague or silent on the issue.

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

   The proposed standard is intended to provide consistent invoice payment due dates among the pipelines. Various tariffs do not provide for the occasion of an invoice due date falling on a holiday or weekend, resulting in disputes and costly inefficiencies for all parties involved.

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

   Unknown -- a tariff filing at FERC may be required, which would generate associated legal and filing fees. It may also be necessary to adapt current computer systems to the proposed standard.

7. **Description of Any Specific Legal or Other Considerations:**

   None.
8. If This Proposed Standard or Enhancement Is Not Tested Yet, List Trading Partners Willing to Test Standard or Enhancement (Corporations and contacts):
   Unknown.

9. If This Proposed Standard or Enhancement Is In Use, Who are the Trading Partners:
   Unknown.

10. Attachments (such as: further detailed proposals, transaction data descriptions, information flows, implementation guides, business process descriptions, examples of ASC ANSI X12 mapped transactions):
   None