

# 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).

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Description	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday <i>(Holiday)</i>	Tuesday
Pipeline Invoice Due				✘	■		
Customer Remits Payment			✘				■

**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