



NORTH AMERICAN ENERGY STANDARDS BOARD

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NAESB ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE ESPI STANDARD AND THE GREEN BUTTON INITIATIVE

The NAESB Energy Services Provider Interface (ESPI) standard, designed to provide a standardized process and interface for the exchange of retail customer energy usage information, was ratified by the NAESB membership and became an official NAESB standard at the end of 2011. The standard, which includes business practices, models and a schema, defines a consistent method for the authorization of third party access to retail consumer's usage information and a standardized interface for the exchange of that information. The goal of the standard is to support the development of innovative products that will allow consumers to better understand their energy usage and to make more economical decisions related to their energy consumption. The NAESB standards development effort was conducted with the support of the National Institute of Standards & Technology and the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel and serves as an extension of the NAESB Energy Usage Information Model developed at the request of NIST and the SGIP.

The finalization of the standard occurred at an opportune time as, Aneesh Chopra and the Office of Science and Technology Policy challenged the industry last September to launch a "Green Button" Initiative that would help consumers save energy and cut energy bills by allowing them to easily track household energy usage. At the end of last year several of the major California utilities committed to adopting the NAESB standard for the development of a Green Button application that would be available on their websites and would allow consumers to access and download their energy usage information. This information can then be shared with authorized third party service providers in a straight-forward, standardized format as provided by the ESPI standard.

In an effort to support the objectives of empowering consumers as they make energy decisions, NAESB is in the process of launching a new website that will provide detailed information about the standard, how it may be accessed and a tool kit to allow entrepreneurs and other interested parties the ability to design applications based upon the standard. Information about the website, which will go live in the coming days, can be obtained by contacting the NAESB office.

The North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) serves as an industry forum for the development and promotion of standards which will lead to a seamless marketplace for wholesale and retail natural gas and electricity, as recognized by its customers, business community, participants, and regulatory entities. It is composed of over three hundred corporate members in the energy industry and many more non-member volunteers who contribute to the drafting and adopting of NAESB standards. To learn more about NAESB, go to www.naesb.org, contact Denise Rager (drager@naesb.org) or call 713-356-0060.
