Via email and posting

August 3, 2017

**TO:** NAESB Board of Directors, Executive Committee (EC) Members, EC Alternates, NAESB Members, NAESB Advisory Council, and Invited Guests

**FROM:** Rae McQuade, NAESB President

**RE:** Announcement of NAESB Board Meeting, Strategic Session and Meeting of the Members – September 7, 2017

Dear Board Members, EC Members, EC Alternates, NAESB Members, NAESB Advisory Council and invited guests,

As noted in other communications, we are pleased to announce the upcoming board meeting to be held September 7 in Houston, Texas at the Marriott Marquis in downtown Houston. I hope you are able to travel to Houston for our upcoming board meeting, related committee meetings and our board dinner. This board meeting serves as our annual meeting of the members, our strategic session, and tactically provides a foundation from which the 2018 annual plans are developed. We will also consider for a vote actions recently taken by the Parliamentary Committee and consider efforts of other committees, including the Board Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Task Force.

The specifics of the board meeting and related meetings are:

Events: Board of Directors Dinner, Board of Directors Meeting, and related NAESB meetings

Where: Marriott Marquis Downtown Hotel, 1777 Walker Street, Houston, Texas 77010, phone: 713-654-1777

When: September 6 Retail Markets Quadrant Leadership Meeting from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm C (lunch served in the meeting)

September 6 Wholesale Electric Quadrant Leadership Meeting from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm C

September 6 Wholesale Gas Quadrant Leadership Meeting from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm C

September 6 Board Reception and Dinner - 5:30 pm reception and 7:00 pm dinner seating (held at the Marriott Marquis)

 September 7 Board of Directors Meeting from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm C, (a buffet lunch will be served during the meeting)

As this board meeting serves as our annual meeting of the members and is focused on strategic directions for NAESB, we are very lucky to have an excellent dinner speaker, Dr. Christopher Kutarna, co-author of the *Age of Discovery[[1]](#footnote-1),* as our dinner speaker on September 6. Dr. Sue Tierney of the Analysis Group will be our speaker during the meeting on September 7. She recently co-authored a report for the National Academy of Sciences -- *Enhancing the Resilience of the Nation’s Electricity System*.[[2]](#footnote-2) Both speakers will set the stage for considering future directions for NAESB. Several other Advisory Council members will be joining us to discuss strategies that our organization should evaluate as we put together our plans for 2018.

**The Board of Directors meeting agenda and meeting materials should be posted on our web site and forwarded by email to you shortly.** In case you have not already done so, please RSVP your intention to attend the board dinner or Board of Directors meeting or any of the related meetings, and your intention to bring a guest or colleague to the dinner at your earliest convenience (vthomason@naesb.org, naesb@naesb.org, 713-356-0060). Should you intend to stay at the Marriott Marquis[[3]](#footnote-3), where all of the meetings and events are held, please know that our room block cutoff date is August 16.

As with all our meetings, these events are open to any interested party. For the meetings, conference calling will be available should you be unable to attend in person. We look forward to your attendance at the leadership meetings and the dinner on September 6, followed by the board meeting September 7. Please contact Veronica Thomason (vthomason@naesb.org, 713-356-0060) should you need additional information.

***Two buses will also be available on September 7 at 12:30 pm to take participants to either Hobby Airport or Bush Intercontinental Airport. Depending on when the meeting ends, the buses can leave between 12:30 pm and 1:00 pm. With normal traffic conditions, it should take 20-30 minutes to leave the hotel and arrive at either airport.***

Best Regards,

**Speaker Biographies**

**Chris Kutarna**

*Fellow, Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford*

*Adjunct Professor, University of Technology (Sydney)*

Chris Kutarna is author of *Age of Discovery: Navigating the Risks and Rewards of Our New Renaissance*, a best-selling, internationally acclaimed book published by Bloomsbury and St Martin’s Press. Among other predictions, Chris publicly foresaw the outcome of the United Kingdom’s 2016 referendum on EU membership (Brexit) and the election of Donald Trump as President of the United States.

He has been a two-time Governor General’s Medallist, a Sauvé Fellow and Commonwealth Scholar. He is now a Fellow of the Oxford Martin School and an Adjunct Professor at the University of Technology (Sydney) Business School. Chris was formerly a consultant with the Boston Consulting Group in New Zealand, Australia and China, His writing appears everywhere from *TIME Magazine* to *Vogue*, and his weekly e-newsletter, at www.kutarna.net, has over 20,000 subscribers.

Chris has a doctorate in Politics from the University of Oxford.

**Susan F. Tierney**

*Senior Advisor, Analysis Group, Boston*

Dr. Sue Tierney is an expert on energy and environmental economics, regulation and policy. She previously served as the Assistant Secretary for Policy at the U.S. DOE, and held various senior positions in Massachusetts government (Secretary for Environmental Affairs; public utility commissioner; chair of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority; executive director of the Energy Facilities Siting Council).

She chairs the Board of Directors of the ClimateWorks Foundation, the DOE’s Electricity Advisory Council, and NREL's External Advisory Council. She is a director of the World Resources Institute, the Energy Foundation, Resources for the Future, and the Alliance to Save Energy.   She previously worked with NAESB on its Gas/Electric Harmonization efforts, and served on the Secretary of Energy’s Advisory Board (SEAB)) and its subcommittee examining shale gas development issues. She previously chaired the Policy Subgroup of the National Petroleum Council’s 2012 study (Prudent Development: Realizing the Potential of North America's Abundant. Natural Gas and Oil Resource) and taught at the University of California at Irvine and at MIT. She earned her Ph.D. and Masters degrees in regional planning at Cornell University.

**Conference Calling and Web Conferencing Details**

**for the September 6-7, 2017 Set of Board and Related Meetings**

The meetings are open to all interested parties, who may participate by phone if unable to attend in person. The Board meeting is also web cast.

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| Sept 6 | 11:00 am to 1:00 pm C | Retail Markets Quadrant Leadership Meeting (In person and Conference Call) |
|  | Marriott Marquis, 1777 Walker Street, Houston, Texas | * Call in number
* Access Code
* Security Code
 | 866-740-126035600635812 |
| Sept 6 | 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm C | Wholesale Electric Quadrant Leadership Meeting (In person and Conference Call) |
|  | Marriott Marquis, 1777 Walker Street, Houston, Texas | * Call in number
* Access Code
* Security Code
 | 866-740-126035600648724 |
| Sept 6 | 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm C | Wholesale Gas Quadrant Leadership Meeting (In person and Conference Call)  |
|  | Marriott Marquis, 1777 Walker Street, Houston, Texas | * Call in number
* Access Code
* Security Code
 | 866-740-126035600637318 |
| Sept 7 | 9:00 am to 1:00 pm C | Board Meeting (In person and Conference Call/Web Cast) |
|  | Marriott Marquis, 1777 Walker Street, Houston, Texas | * Call in number
* Access Code
* Security Code
 | 866-740-126071335606515 |

To join a conference call:

• Dial the 11-digit toll free call-in phone number shown above for the specific meetings

• An automated attendant will ask you to enter a seven-digit access code (shown in the table above)

• The automated attendant will ask you to record your name.

• Please note that if the conference leader has not yet initiated the conference call, you will be placed on music hold until the conference leader starts the conference.

•The automated attendant will then ask you for a four-digit security code (shown in the table above)

Please place your phone on mute unless you are speaking. For those participants that do not have a mute feature on your phone, please press (\*6) to mute your phone and (\*7) to un-mute your phone. Putting the conference call on hold may cause music to be played over the discussion and if so, the NAESB office will contact the on-hold line to have it disconnected.

If the meeting has the web conferencing feature enabled, to join the web conference, go to www.readytalk.com and enter the same access code and **s**ecurity code. Please note that if the conference leader has not yet initiated the web conference you will view a screen that states, “The Chairperson has not yet arrived. Please standby for your web conference to begin.”

ReadyTalk recommends that you test your browser and network connections for compatibility prior to participating in a web conference. To do so, go to http://test.callinfo.com. If you have problems joining a conference call or need technical assistance, please contact ReadyTalk Customer Care, 1-800-843-9166.

1. The book can be purchased from <https://t.co/GA9LyXfuhw>. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The report can be accessed from <https://www.naesb.org/misc/nas_report.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The Marriott Marquis can be contacted through <https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/bd090717hotel.docx> or by phone - 877-622-3056. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)