**via posting**

**TO:** NAESB Board of Directors, Gas-Electric Harmonization (GEH) Forum and Interested Parties

**FROM:** Jonathan Booe, North American Energy Standards Board

**RE:** Meeting Notes from theNAESB GEH Forum Conference Call – January 25, 2016

**DATE:** January 28, 2016

All,

A Gas-Electric Harmonization (GEH) Forum conference call was held on January 25, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am Central, and Mr. Thorn and Ms. Tierney presided over the meeting. The notes and attachments below serve as a record for the meeting.

| **Notes from the January 25, 2016 GEH Forum Conference Call** | |
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| **Administrative:** | Ms. McQuade welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Mr. Thorn and Ms. Tierney for serving as the GEH Forum facilitators. She stated that the forum meetings are open to all those wishing to participate, including members of the press and regulatory staff and commissioners who may be present on today’s conference call. Ms. McQuade turned the meeting over to Mr. Thorn and Ms. Tierney. At Mr. Thorn’s request, Mr. Booe provided the antitrust guidance and other meeting policies. Mr. Thorn reviewed the agenda with the participants and asked if anyone wanted to offer any modifications. None were offered. Ms. Tierney moved to adopt the agenda as drafted and Ms. Van Pelt seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition. |
| **Review Background Materials** | Mr. Thorn asked Mr. Booe and Ms. McQuade to provide background information pertaining to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) FERC Order No. 809 (Final Order) and the direction given to the forum by the NAESB Board of Directors. Mr. Booe directed the participants attention to the FERC Order No. 809 Timeline document included in the agenda as background material. He reviewed the activities of the Commission and the NAESB Board of Directors since the issuance of the Final Order on April 16, 2015 and specifically noted the requests made by the Commission in both the Final Order and the subsequent order on rehearing. Ms. McQuade summarized the direction provided by the Board of Directors to the Forum during the December 10, 2015 board meeting. Mr. Thorn stated that board expects the Forum to develop a report, which will be reviewed during the April 7, 2016 meeting and support their deliberations as they determine a path forward to respond to the Commission’s request. Mr. Petersen asked if voting on a recommendation would be part of the Forum’s activities during their scheduled meetings. Mr. Booe stated that the goal of the Forum is to develop a record and report that can be considered by the Board of Directors and that he does not anticipate the need for any voting. |
| **Review Schedule and Request for Presentations** | Ms. Tierney reviewed the meeting schedule and deliverables with the participants and summarized the request for presentations distributed on January 12, 2016. She stated that notice of intent to submit a presentation should be given to the NAESB office by February 1, 2016 and all presentations should be submitted no later than February 8, 2016. All presentations will be posted to the NAESB website on the GEH Forum webpage, and any party can submit written comments on the presentations for inclusion in the record. She noted that the presentations should focus on providing the following information:   1. Education on the current practices and processes in both the natural gas and electric industries regarding gas-electric coordination and computerized scheduling 2. Identification of issues related to computerized scheduling 3. Potential solutions to the issues identified   She stated that the presentations should be limited to roughly twenty minutes, but presenters may submit background materials to elaborate on the topics covered in the presentations, if needed. She stated that time limits for presentations will be set after the February 1st deadline for notice. She also reminded the participants that most people are familiar with the scheduling process and that including a detailed review of the process will be unnecessary. Ms. Magruder asked how many notices of intent to submit a presentation have been given to the NAESB office. Mr. Booe responded that three written notices have been submitted. Mr. Casey asked if all of the meetings will take place at the Hilton Americas. Ms. McQuade responded that the first meeting will be held at the Doubletree Hotel downtown, but all others will be held at the Hilton Americas. She stated that the NAESB office would post a list of hotels located in downtown Houston for those interested in attending in person.  Mr. Busch asked if specific parties will be asked to give presentations. Ms. McQuade responded that requests may be made if there is a lack of representation from a specific market segment, and reminded the participants that goal of the Forum is to develop a robust record through broad and diverse market participation. Mr. Nowak stated that the scheduling process should be the primary focus of the discussion and that eliminating a detailed review of the process may be problematic when developing a report. Ms. McQuade stated that Ms. Tierney was requesting that presenters focus on their specific scheduling process and not focus on a higher level generic scheduling process. Ms. Tierney stated that if a review of the broader scheduling process as defined by the NAESB standards is necessary, a primer could be organized upon request and proctored by Mr. Buccigross, Chair of the Wholesale Gas Quadrant (WGQ) Executive Committee. Mr. Novak stated that participants from the WGQ Local Distribution Company segment may not submit a presentation, unless their specific needs are not recognized in the presentations of others. Mr. Schoene asked if the presentations should distinguish between pipeline and service requester processes. Ms. Van Pelt recommended that all segments submit presentations concerning their processes so that education request of the Board of Directors is fully addressed. Ms. Tierney supported her recommendation. |
| **Next meeting Preparations and Other Business** | Ms. McQuade stated that a listing of the participants that contacted the NAESB office to provide a presentation will be provided after the February 1, 2016 deadline, and an agenda for the February 18-19, 2016 meeting will be distributed after all presentations are submitted on February 8, 2016. Mr. Booe noted that the meeting registration process will be identical to the previous GEH Forum meetings. Ms. McQuade asked if Mr. Thorn or Ms. Tierney had any closing remarks. Mr. Thorn recommended that the presentations focus on noting the opportunities and obstacles to moving in the direction signaled by the Commission. Ms. Tierney supported Mr. Thorn’s recommendation and noted that a rich report from the Forum would represent a positive step by the industry. Mr. Thorn asked if there were any additional questions or comments from the participants. Mr. Connor stated that he is uncertain what faster, computerized scheduling is intended to mean in the Final Order. Ms. McQuade stated that the activities of the Forum and the Board of Directors are intended to help define its meaning from an industry perspective. Ms. Davis reminded that participants the three to four hour window between the nominations and confirmations process was reduced from four to five hours through the Final Order and that the standards have not been implemented yet. Mr. Raval supported Ms. Davis’ statement. Ms. Tierney stated that this conversation should be part of the discussions of the Forum that will be used to develop the final report. |
| **Adjourn:** | The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 am Central. |
| **Work Papers Provided for the Meeting:** | **Meeting Related Documents:**   * Announcement and Agenda: <https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/geh012516a.docx> * NAESB GEH Forum Distribution List as of January 12, 2016: <http://www.naesb.org/pdf4/naesb_geh_forum_distlist_2016.doc> * Antitrust Guidance: <http://www.naesb.org/misc/antitrust_guidance.doc> * FERC Order No. 809: <https://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/comm-meet/2015/041615/M-1.pdf> * FERC Order on Rehearing on FERC Order No. 809: <https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/ferc091715_order809_order_on_rehearing.docx> * FERC Order No. 809 Timeline: <https://www.naesb.org/misc/ferc_order809_historical_timeline.doc> * NAESB Board of Directors Meeting – December 10, 2015: [https://www.naesb.org//pdf4/bd121015dm.docx](https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/bd121015dm.docx) * 2016 WEQ Annual Plan: <http://www.naesb.org/pdf4/weq_2016_annual_plan.docx> * 2016 WGQ Annual Plan: <http://www.naesb.org/pdf4/wgq_2016_annual_plan.docx> * GEH Forum Schedule of Meetings: <https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/geh012516w2.doc> * GEH Forum Request for Presentations: <https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/geh012516w1.doc> |
| **Attendance** | The RSVP and Attendee List for the January 25, 2016 meeting can be found through the following hyperlink: <https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/naesb_geh_forum_rsvp_012516.pdf> |