TO: NAESB Board Members, Executive Committee Members, Alternates, Subcommittee Leadership
FROM: Rae McQuade, President, NAESB
RE: Announcement of NAESB Leadership Workshop on “Multiparty Consensus Building Through Effective Leadership”

Dear NAESB Members:

We are very fortunate to announce the availability of a second workshop to assist our organization in the efficient development of standards through effective leadership. The workshop will be held on February 24 (9:00 am to 4:30 pm) and February 25 (9:00 am to 3:00 pm), in Las Vegas at the Mirage Hotel. Due to the nature of this workshop, it will not be webcast nor will it be available via conference call. If at all possible, we would urge you to attend this excellent workshop; indeed, it is considered a key event for attendance by NAESB leadership in committees, subcommittees, the Board and Executive Committees.

Should you decide to attend, please confirm such with our office (vthomason@naesb.org, 713-356-0060) as soon as possible. As seating is limited, seats will be reserved in the order in which the RSVPs are received. Only confirmed participants will attend. Materials will be sent to the confirmed attendees shortly.

Travel Specifics:

Date: Thursday February 24 – 9:00 am to 4:30 pm
Friday, February 25 – 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Continental breakfast and lunch provided to attendees.

Hotel: Mirage Hotel, 3400 South Las Vegas Boulevard, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109,
Reservations: 702-791-7111
Antigua A Room

Mr. Richard Miles, biography attached, will lead the interactive workshop. Rick led our 2009 workshop on facilitation, and he has offered similar workshops to many different groups. I am confident that this workshop will yield benefits that will improve our ability to develop standards efficiently through sound leadership, successful negotiations, and effective mediation. In the first workshop, the attendees reviewed the foundations of interest-based negotiation, meeting preparation and management, application of an interest-based approach to meetings, decision-making tools, and problem behaviors which provide a basis for multiparty consensus building. The second workshop reviews negotiation skill sets, touches upon mediation skill sets and the testing of theory against real-life multiparty situations through the use of simulations that isolate particular features of multiparty negotiations, including the role of subject matter experts, committee chairs and vice chairs.

We understand the need of all organizations to watch travel budgets – even more important in today’s economy. Also we understand the difficulty of managing workload when travel is a component of participation. As such, this interactive workshop is offered at no fee to you. If you price similar workshops, you will quickly see that similar courses range in the $1,500 to $2,500 fee per participant. Similarly, we have located the workshop in an area for which travel costs are typically quite inexpensive when compared to other meeting locations. While we do not have a room block at the Mirage, there are rooms available at a reasonable rate, and there are several nearby hotels also with rooms available.

We hope you can take advantage of this offer. Once again, should you decide to attend, please confirm such with our office (vthomason@naesb.org, 713-356-0060) as soon as possible. As seating is limited, seats will be reserved in the order in which the RSVPs are received. Only confirmed participants will attend. We should have a more detailed program out shortly with meeting materials to the confirmed participants.

With best regards and many thanks to Rick Miles for making this workshop possible,

Rae
On October 1, 2010, Rick Miles retired from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and started a solo practice as an ADR/Conflict Resolution Specialist. Prior to his retirement, Rick was appointed in 2006 as the Director of the Office of Administrative Litigation (OAL). In 1999, he was designated as the Commission’s Dispute Resolution Specialist under the Administrative Dispute Resolution Act of 1996 and was appointed as the Commission’s first Director of its Dispute Resolution Service (DRS). Prior assignments at FERC include: Director, DRS (1999 – 2009); Associate General Counsel for Administrative Litigation; Assistant General Counsel for Electric and Corporate Regulation; and, Trial Attorney. In 1987, he was selected to be a member of the federal government’s Senior Executive Service.

As Director of OAL, he managed trial staff’s participation in oil, gas, and electric cases set for hearing. The 91 lawyers and expert witnesses in OAL represented the public interest in litigation and settlement proceedings. Rick also managed FERC’s DRS which consisted of six conflict resolution specialists/mediators.

Since 1999, Rick has facilitated and mediated numerous oil, gas, electric, pipeline, tribal, and hydroelectric cases. Examples of Rick’s training in conflict resolution includes the “Cultural and Gender Issues in Dispute Resolution” and “The Protean Mediator as Leader” courses at the Strauss Institute for Conflict Resolution at Pepperdine Law School, the introductory and advanced mediation courses and the negotiation course at Harvard’s Program of Instruction for Lawyers, the “Teaching Negotiation in the Organization” course at Harvard Law School’s Program on Negotiation, and the American Bar Association’s “Comprehensive Training in Commercial Arbitration.”

Rick has appeared on ADR panels and has conducted workshops and training in negotiation and mediation at FERC, state, federal, and international entities and other organizations, e.g., the American Bar Association, the Energy Bar Association, the Foreign Service Institute’s Training Center, the Department of Interior, NAESB, NERC, the Surface Transportation Board, the Dominion Republic’s Superintendencia de Electricidad, Canada’s National Energy Board, the California Public Utilities Commission, the Regulatory Commission of Alaska, the South Asia Regional Regulators meeting (Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, and India), the China State Electricity Regulatory Commission, Abogados del Estado ante la Audiencia Nacional as well as four other regulatory agencies in Spain, the Thailand Environmental Dispute Prevention and Resolution Center, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, and Peru’s energy regulatory agency OSINERGMIN.

In April 2005, Rick ended his term as chair of the federal government’s Interagency Alternative Dispute Resolution Group Steering Committee. He was also the former chair of one of the four federal government's ADR working groups – the Civil Enforcement and Regulatory Section. Additionally, Rick was a leader and contributor to the “Report for the President on the Use and Results of Alternative Dispute Resolution in the Executive Branch of the Federal Government,” submitted to the President in April 2007. Most recently, he was elected to the Council for the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution. He can be reached at (443) 835-8662 or by email at ricmilesadr@gmail.com.