FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION ACTION ON WEQ VERSION 003.3 STANDARDS

July 17, 2020

Dear Members of the Wholesale Electric Quadrant,

Yesterday, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR) regarding Version 003.3 of the NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards. In the NOPR, issued in Docket Nos. RM05-5-029 and RM05-5-030, the Commission proposes to amend its regulations to incorporate by reference the NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards with certain enumerated exceptions. The Commission identified the following NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards for incorporation by reference:

- WEQ-000, Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Definition of Terms (WEQ Version 003.1, September 30, 2015) (including only the definitions of Interconnection Time Monitor, Time Error, and Time Error Correction)
- WEQ-000 Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Definition of Terms (WEQ Version 003.3, March 30, 2020)
- WEQ-002, OASIS Business Practice Standards and Communication Protocols (S&CP) (WEQ Version 003.3, March 30, 2020)
- WEQ-004, Coordinate Interchange Business Practice Standards (WEQ Version 003.3, March 30, 2020)
- WEQ-005, Area Control Error Equation Special Cases Business Practice Standards (WEQ Version 003.3, March 30, 2020)
- WEQ-007, Inadvertent Interchange Payback Business Practice Standards (WEQ Version 003.3, March 30, 2020)
- WEQ-011, Gas/Electric Coordination Business Practice Standards (WEQ Version 003.3, March 30, 2020)
- WEQ-012, Public Key Infrastructure Business Practice Standards (WEQ Version 003.3, March 30, 2020)
- WEQ-015, Measurement and Verification of Wholesale Electricity Demand Response Business Practice Standards (WEQ Version 003.3, March 30, 2020)

All interested persons are invited to submit comments concerning the NOPR within 60 days following the publication of the NOPR in the Federal Register. The Commission encourages comments to be filed electronically, and all comments must include a reference to Docket Nos. RM05-5-029 and RM05-5-030, the commenter’s name, the organization they represent, if applicable, and their address.

Version 003.3 of the NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards addresses a wide-range of topics and includes the final work products of several multi-year standard development projects. These projects included the cybersecurity-related standards developed in response to the recommendations contained in the 2019 Sandia National Laboratories Surety Assessment Report, the standards developed to support the Parallel Flow Visualization Project, and the final standards developed in response to FERC Order No. 890 directives. In total, this new version contains 153 new standards, 229 revisions to existing standards, and numerous complementary modifications to the supporting appendices, definitions, and acronyms approved by the WEQ between December 2017 and March 2020. Thank you to our members and countless industry volunteers who participated in the development of the standards that are the subject of this NOPR.

With Best Regards,

Michael Desselle, Chairman and CEO, North American Energy Standards Board

cc: Ms. Rae McQuade, President & COO, North American Energy Standards Board
Mr. William P. Boswell, General Counsel, North American Energy Standards Board
Mr. Jonathan Booe, Executive Vice President & CAO, North American Energy Standards Board

2 Additionally, the Commission requests “parties to submit comments on whether the NAESB Business Practice Standards WEQ-023-1 (General Requirements), WEQ-023-2 (ATC Requirements), WEQ-023-3 (CBM Scheduling Requirements), and WEQ-023-4 (TRM Requirements) provide sufficient details to protect transmission customers. Further, we seek comment on whether the Commission should start its own process to adopt more specific regulations regarding ATC calculations or by modifying the pro forma OATT, or, alternatively, ask NAESB to consider providing additional details and more specific requirements in further revisions to these standards in a subsequent WEQ Version filing.”