| **NORTH AMERICAN ENERGY STANDARDS BOARD2016 Annual Plan for the Wholesale Gas Quadrant****Adopted by the Board of Directors on December 10, 2015**  |
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| **Item Description** | **Completion[[1]](#endnote-1)** | **Assignment[[2]](#endnote-2)** |
| **1. Update Standards Matrix Tool for Ease of Use[[3]](#endnote-3)** |
|  | a. | Update the reference tool developed for Version 2.1 to reflect modifications applicable to Version 3.0Status: Not Started  | 1st Q, 2016 | IR/Technical |
| **2. Electronic Delivery Mechanisms** |
|  | a. | Review minimum technical characteristics in Appendices B, C, and D of the WGQ QEDM Manual, and make changes as appropriate. Status: Not Started | 2016 | EDM |
| **3. Gas-Electric Coordination** |
|  | a. | Review FERC Order No. 809 ¶ 107 issued in Docket No. RM14-2-000[[4]](#footnote-1) regarding computerized scheduling and provide recommended direction concerning the development of standards or modifications to existing standards as needed to support the request of the Commission[[5]](#footnote-2) The recommended direction[[6]](#footnote-3) will require two-step board approval, for both the timeline to be pursued and the framework for standards development.[[7]](#footnote-4)Status: Not Started | 2016 | Gas-Electric Harmonization Forum, NAESB Board of Directors, WEQ EC & WGQ EC |
|  | b. | Resulting from the efforts of annual plan item 3(a), develop standards as needed and directed by the Board of Directors, which are specifically assigned to the WGQ.Status: Not Started, dependent on completion of item 3(a). | TBD | WGQ EC and relevant subcommittees |
| **4. Develop and/or modify standards to support FERC Order Instituting Proceeding to Develop Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms (Docket No. AD15-11-000)[[8]](#footnote-5)** |
|  | a. | Develop business practices as needed to support electronic filing protocols for submittal of FERC FormsStatus: Underway | TBD | Joint WEQ/WGQ FERC Forms Subcommittee |
| **5. Liquefied Natural Gas Master Agreement** |
|  | a. | Consider and determine if a NAESB Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Master Agreement is neededStatus: Not Started | 2016 | WGQ Contracts |
|  | b. | Develop the LNG Master Agreement according to the analysis completed in item 6.a.Status: Not Started, dependent on completion 5(a) | TBD | WGQ Contracts |
| **Program of Standards Maintenance & Fully Staffed Standards Work** |
|  | Business Practice Requests  | Ongoing | Assigned by the EC[[9]](#endnote-4) |
|  | Continue review against plan for migration to ANSI ASC X12 new versions as needed and coordinate such activities with DISA. | Ongoing | Assigned by the EC3 |
|  | Information Requirements and Technical Mapping of Business Practices | Ongoing | Assigned by the EC3 |
|  | Interpretations for Clarifying Language Ambiguities  | Ongoing | Assigned by the EC4 |
|  | Maintenance of Code Values and Other Technical Matters | Ongoing | Assigned by the EC3 |
|  | Maintenance of eTariff Standards | As Requested | Assigned by the EC4 |
| **Provisional Activities** |
| 1. | Develop standards as needed in support of Variable Energy Resources (VERs) final order (RM10-11-000). ([NAESB Comments 3-2-11](http://www.naesb.org/pdf4/naesb_comments_ver_integration_nopr_030211.pdf), [FERC NOPR RM10-11-000](http://www.naesb.org/pdf4/ferc_111810_vers_nopr.doc), [FERC Final Order RM10-11-000](http://www.naesb.org/pdf4/ferc_062212_integration_variable_energy_resources_order764.pdf)[[10]](#footnote-6)) In review of the NAESB standards, the Gas/Electric Operational Communications Standards may require changes, and other standards may be required or modified to support gas-electric coordination. |

**Wholesale Gas Quadrant**

**Executive Committee (WGQ EC)**

**Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS)**

**Contracts Subcommittee**

**Information Requirements Subcommittee (IR)**

**Technical Subcommittee**

**Electronic Delivery Mechanism Subcommittee (EDM)**

**Technical**

**Implementation**

**Task Forces & Working Groups**

**Practices**

**Development**

The translation of business practices to usable uniform business transactions is accomplished through the definition of information requirements for the data, and mapping of that data into specific electronic transactions. This translation is performed by IR and Technical subcommittees and completes the standards development process, often referred to as “full staffing.” Both IR and Technical work in tandem to complete this crucial technical implementation activity. Until these steps have been completed, the process is incomplete, and in many cases, the business practices cannot be used.

**Interpretations Subcommittee**

**FERC Forms Subcommittee**

**NAESB 2016 WGQ EC and Subcommittee Leadership:**

Executive Committee: Jim Buccigross, Chair and Dale Davis, Vice-Chair

Business Practices Subcommittee: Kim Van Pelt, Sylvia Munson, Willis McCluskey, Phil Precht, Ben Schoene

Information Requirements Subcommittee: Dale Davis, Rachel Hogge

Technical Subcommittee: Kim Van Pelt

Contracts Subcommittee: Keith Sappenfield

Electronic Delivery Mechanism Subcommittee: Leigh Spangler

FERC Forms Subcommittee: Leigh Spangler, Dick Brooks

1. **End Notes, WGQ 2016 Annual Plan:**

 Dates in the completion column are by end of the quarter for completion by the assigned committee. The dates do not necessarily mean that the standards are fully staffed to be implementable by the industry, and/or ratified by membership. If one item is completed earlier than planned, another item can begin earlier and possibly complete earlier than planned. There are no begin dates on the plan. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. The assignments are abbreviated. The abbreviations and committee structure can be found at the end of the annual plan document. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. As implementation of business issues are presented to the Information Requirements Subcommittee and Technical Subcommittee, those issues will be given precedence over WGQ 2016 Annual Plan Item No. 1. [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. FERC Order No. 809 can be found through the following hyperlink: <https://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/comm-meet/2015/041615/M-1.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
5. FERC Order No. 809 ¶107. While NAESB’s modified standards represent an improvement over the currently effective standards, we continue to recognize that additional intraday nomination opportunities could promote more efficient use of existing pipeline infrastructure and provide additional operational flexibility to all pipeline shippers, including gas-fired generators. The modified NAESB standards reflect reduced intraday processing times from the current NAESB standards (i.e., three hours instead of the current four hours), and existing operational limitations, including the manual processes utilized by pipelines for processing nominations, may affect the ability of the gas industry to add additional standard nomination cycles applicable to all shippers. However, the use of computerized scheduling would appear to provide an opportunity for faster and more frequent scheduling of intraday nominations for those shippers and their confirming parties willing to commit to scheduling electronically. We request that gas and electric industries, through NAESB, explore the potential for faster, computerized scheduling when shippers and confirming parties all submit electronic nominations and confirmations, including a streamlined confirmation process if necessary. Providing such an option would enable those entities that need greater scheduling flexibility to have their requests processed expeditiously. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
6. The steps for the GEH forum shall be:

	1. Provide a forum for industry education from both the natural gas and electric industries regarding gas-electric coordination specific to computerized scheduling, and confirmations including a streamlined confirmation process, if necessary ([FERC Order No. 809 Order on Rehearing, Docket No. RM14-2-001](https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/ferc091715_order809_order_on_rehearing.docx))
	2. Identify potential issues specific to computerized scheduling, and confirmations including a streamlined confirmation process, if necessary which could be based on the education provided in step 1
	3. Identify potential solutions to the issues identified in step 2
	4. Identify potential schedules for standards development including status and progress reports to the board [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
7. FERC Order on Rehearing ¶1 – September 17, 2015 [Docket No. RM14-2-001] In Order No. 809, the Commission revised its regulations relating to the scheduling of transportation service on interstate natural gas pipelines to better coordinate the scheduling practices of the wholesale natural gas and electric industries, as well as to provide additional scheduling flexibility to all shippers on interstate natural gas pipelines. The Commission also requested that natural gas and electric industries, through the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB), explore the potential for faster, computerized scheduling when shippers and confirming parties all submit electronic nominations and confirmations, including a streamlined confirmation process if necessary. On May 18, 2015, the Desert Southwest Pipeline Stakeholders (DSPS) filed a request for rehearing of Order No. 809. On August 4, 2015, NAESB filed a report indicating that due to the press of implementing the revised nomination standards by April 1, 2016, it would not begin the development of computerized scheduling standards until after that date. As discussed below, the Commission denies DSPS’ request for rehearing and directs El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C. (El Paso), Transwestern Pipeline Company, LLC (Transwestern), and TransCanada-North Baja Pipelines (TransCanada-North Baja) to make an informational filing within 90 days of the date of this order. In addition, while we recognize the time commitments in implementing the revised nomination timeline, the Commission requests that the natural gas and electric industries, through NAESB, begin considering the development of standards related to faster, computerized scheduling and file such standards or a report on the development of such standards with the Commission by October 17, 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
8. The FERC Order Instituting Proceeding to Develop Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms, issued on April 16, 2015, can be found through the following hyperlink: <https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/ferc041615_electronic_filing_protocols_forms.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
9. The EC assigns maintenance of existing standards on a request-by-request basis. [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
10. For FERC Final Order, Docket No. RM10-11-000, specifically paragraph nos. 146 and 182 should be reviewed:

146. The Commission concludes that an independent review of NERC standards and NAESB business practices is not necessary prior to the implementation of intra-hour scheduling. As noted by NERC, several entities currently offer intra-hour scheduling without any apparent conflict with Reliability Standards. NERC comments that it does not believe there are any existing standards that prohibit industry from implementing intra-hour scheduling, and no commenters have pointed to specific NAESB business practices that prevent industry from implementing intra-hour scheduling. The Commission therefore concludes that it is not necessary to delay adoption of the intra-hour scheduling requirements of this Final Rule pending further review of NERC Reliability Standards and NAESB business practices. To the extent industry believes it is beneficial to refine one or more existing NERC Reliability Standards or NAESB business practices to reflect intra-hour scheduling, stakeholders can use existing processes to pursue such refinements.

182. Some commenters request that the Commission standardize protocols for reporting meteorological or forced outage data required by this Final Rule. The Proposed Rule did not contain standard protocols for data reporting and, as a result, the merits of such a requirement have not been fully addressed in the record.  Whether standardization of data communications would facilitate or hinder development of power production forecasting may implicate a variety of data and communications issues that would benefit from broad industry input through standards development processes such as those used by NAESB and other organizations. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)