



North American Energy Standards Board

1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002
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Home Page: www.naesb.org

February 24, 2026

NAESB UPDATE CONFERENCE CALL

PRESENTATION BY JOHN PAUL SKEATH ON NERC DER INFORMATION SHARING GUIDANCE:

Mr. Skeath, Manager of Engineering and Security Integration at the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), delivered the presentation. The presentation provided a high-level overview of the work of the System Planning Impacts from Distributed Energy Resources Working Group (SPIDERWG) and NERC's efforts related to Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) and aggregated DERs at the transmission level, including DER aggregators, DER owners, distribution providers, and transmission owners. Mr. Skeath explained SPIDERWG's key activities, which include analyzing DER performance, identifying improvements to DER modeling and benchmarking, and developing recommendations related to monitoring and reporting DER capacity increases. He summarized three white papers of SPIDERWG: (1) Recommendations for Simulation Improvement and Techniques Related to DER Planning, (2) Transmission and Distribution Coordination Strategies, and (3) Reducing DER Variability and Uncertainty Impacts on the Bulk Power System. He noted that these white papers were used as part of NERC Reliability Guidelines on modeling aggregated DERs. Mr. Skeath stated that the white papers identified a centralized DER registry as a potential mechanism to reduce variability and uncertainty of the bulk power system. He noted that a DER registry could also support the exchange and updating of DER data for various use cases, including capability, configuration, commercial, conditions, and control functions. He emphasized the importance of a trusted source of truth for DER data, noting that multiple datasets could increase confusion and result in conflicting data representations. Mr. Skeath stated that, in response to FERC Order No. 901, NERC had revised MOD-032-2 to include data reporting requirements to support Transmission Planner (TP) and Planning Coordinator (PC) modeling and reporting requirements. He explained that the aggregated DER data is mostly reflected in both steady-state data and transient dynamic data. Mr. Skeath expressed support for continued industry coordination on DER data and noted that NAESB's ongoing work related to a DER registry could provide meaningful benefits to reliability and planning efforts. Ms. Trum asked the data NERC views to be of greatest importance for the industry. Mr. Skeath confirmed that categories identified in MOD-032-2 would be the highest importance for transmission planners and planning coordinators.

WEQ NERC COORDINATION: Mr. Norton, Chair of the NAESB WEQ Standards Review Subcommittee (SRS), provided the update. NAESB AND NERC continue coordination efforts to ensure consistency between the Wholesale Electric Quadrant (WEQ) Business Practice Standards and NERC Reliability Standards. In support of coordination, the WEQ Standards Review Subcommittee (SRS) tracks NERC standards development activities and revisions to ensure consistency and coordination. The WEQ SRS held its first meeting of the year on February 5, 2026 to review coordination activities related to cybersecurity and distributed energy resources (DERs). With respect to cybersecurity, the subcommittee reviewed NERC standard development efforts to support third party-cloud computing, noting that reliability standards development in this area is a priority for NERC in 2026. The subcommittee also reviewed NERC's development efforts of new or modified reliability requirements in response to directives in FERC Order No. 912 *Supply Chain Risk Management Reliability Standards Revisions*. The subcommittee will continue to monitor both projects and coordinate with the WEQ cybersecurity Subcommittee accordingly. Additionally, the subcommittee reviewed NERC's ongoing DER related efforts, including NERC Project 2025-03 Order No. 901 Operational Studies and NERC Project 2020-06 Verifications of Models and Data for Generators, to assess potential impacts to the WEQ Business Practice Standards. The SRS plans to review NERC standards and glossary terms referenced within the WEQ Business Practice Standard to ensure accuracy and consistency prior to the publication of the next WEQ Business Practice Standards at the end of this year.

WEQ COORDINATE INTERCHANGE SCHEDULING ACTIVITIES: Mr. Buus, Co-Chair of the NAESB WEQ Coordinate Interchange Scheduling Subcommittee (CISS), provided the update. The WEQ CISS held a meeting in January to begin addressing the assigned 2026 WEQ Annual Plan Item to consider potential modifications to WEQ Business Practice Standards to support greater consistency in the calculation of integrated hourly values. WEQ-004 Coordinate Interchange Business Practice Standards require that any fractional values in calculating integrated hourly values be rounded to the nearest whole megawatts per hour (MWh). However, the number of decimals used to



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represent those fractional values can affect the resulting calculated integrated hourly value. During the meeting, the subcommittee reviewed two primary rounding methodologies used by the industry: a tag-based rounding method and an interval-based rounding method. The subcommittee is working to determine how to best standardize the calculation within the standards and is considering several factors, including prevalence of use, accuracy, complexity of standardization, and ease of use. Because integrated hourly values appear in multiple WEQ Business Practice Standards and are referenced in various commercial and operational applications, it is important to fully understand each use case before proposing a solution. Accordingly, this Annual Plan item is jointly assigned with the WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee and WEQ OASIS Subcommittee to evaluate the impact of any proposed WEQ-004 revisions developed by the WEQ CISS and to determine whether additional modifications to other standards are needed. The next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2026 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM Central.

WEQ/RMQ BPS: DER ACTIVITIES: Mr. Fitzgerald, Vice Chair of the NAESB WEQ Executive Committee, provided the updated. The WEQ and RMQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS) continue to work together to consider the development of standards that support the industry’s use of registries to access and share distributed energy resource (DER) and DER aggregation data and to improve interoperability across markets. As part of this effort, the subcommittees have developed a concept paper outlining a proposed conceptual approach and are seeking informal industry feedback. The proposal reflects input from a broad range of industry stakeholders, including utilities, grid operators, technology service providers, and NERC staff. The concept paper presents a two-part proposal to (1) create a centralized DER Entity Registry and (2) develop new NAESB Business Practice Standards to facilitate interoperability between DER registries and other data tools. The first part of the proposal involves the development of a centralized DER Entity Registry that would serve as a common database for registering entities that provide or require access to information in industry developed DER registries. Modeled after the NAESB Electric Industry Registry, the DER Entity Registry would define the organizational categories and functional roles necessary to support mutual authentication, data access controls, and cybersecurity protocols. The second part of the proposal focuses on the development of business practice standards that would define processes and technical specifications related to data formatting and interface structures. These would establish a standardized framework to support data compatibility among disparate systems that house DER and DER aggregation information while allowing flexibility to accommodate existing systems and tools. The concept paper outlines the considerations that informed the development of the two-part proposal, including the need to support industry implementation of state and federal regulatory requirements, such as FERC Order No. 2222 and 901, and identifies targeted questions where industry feedback is needed to assess support for moving forward with the effort. A request for informal comment on the concept paper was issued on February 17, 2026 with responses due by Tuesday, March 10, 2026. The subcommittees plan to meet on March 13, 2026 to review any submitted comments and determine the next steps.

WEQ/RMQ/WGQ CYBERSECURITY ACTIVITIES: Mr. Brooks with Business Cyber Guardian provided the update. The Cybersecurity Subcommittee and WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee held a kickoff meeting in December 2025 to consider the development of cybersecurity-related standards supportive of the wholesale electric industry’s implementation of FERC Order No. 912. As part of the meeting, the subcommittees identified initial considerations regarding the need for new or revised standards related to vendor vulnerability disclosure reporting and third-party software verification. This included ways to potentially streamline the identification of pertinent software vulnerabilities by the energy industry and help ensure relevant information is made available by vendors in a useful, consistent manner, such as minimum data authenticity and provenance requirements for vendor product and vulnerability disclosures and standardized data and reporting formats. The subcommittees continued discussion on January 30, 2026, focusing on the potential development of standardized contract language that could be used during procurement processes to clearly define expectations related to vulnerability disclosure and reporting to support FERC Order No. 912 and NERC Supply Chain Risk Management Reliability Standards. The next joint meeting is scheduled to be held on February 24, 2026 from 1:00PM to 3:00PM Central. Additionally, the WGQ, RMQ, and WEQ 2026 Annual Plan each include an annual review of their respective cybersecurity standards as part of the to account for ongoing cybersecurity changes and ensure that NAESB Business Practice Standards continue to meet industry needs and support secure electronic commercial communications.

RMQ ENERGY SERVICES PROVIDER INTERFACE TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES: Mr. Coffin, Chair of the



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NAESB RMQ ESPI Task Force, provided the update. On January 29, 2026, the RMQ ESPI Task Force voted out a recommendation developed in response to a Standards Request submitted by the Green Button Alliance proposing to deprecate the use of the Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) as a supported data transport method within to the NAESB REQ.21 ESPI Model Business Practices. The ESPI Model Business Practices support the exchange of retail customer energy usage and personal information through a customer authorization process and serves as the foundation for the Green Button Program, establishing the communication protocols and technical framework which allows customers to access their energy data directly or to authorize third parties to receive that information. While the current REQ ESPI Model Business Practices support both Representational State Transfer (REST) and SFTP as transport methodologies, it has been noted that there have been no implementations using SFTP and that SFTP may present greater security risks than REST for third parties or data custodians accessing customer energy usage information. The recommendation has been posted for formal industry comment, with comments due by February 27, 2026, and will be considered as part of the RMQ Executive Committee discussion at the upcoming meeting in March. In addition, the Green Button Alliance submitted a Request for Minor Corrections intended to promote consistency and ensure that deprecated elements are accurately reflected within the ESPI Model Business Practices. The Request for Minor Corrections will be reviewed at the upcoming RMQ Executive Committee meeting and, if approved, will be incorporated into the updated version of the RMQ Model Business Practices along with the proposed revisions included in the recommendation.

WGQ CONTRACTS ACTIVITIES: Mr. Sappenfield, Chair of the NAESB WGQ Contracts Subcommittee, provided the update. At the start of this year, the Clean Hydrogen Alliance submitted a Standards Request proposing the development of an ammonia addendum to the NAESB Base Contract for the Sale and Purchase of Hydrogen (Hydrogen Base Contract). The proposed ammonia addendum would establish a standardized framework to address the value of low carbon ammonia and hydrogen within a single contract. A central focus of the ammonia addendum is the use of instruments equivalent to Energy Attribute Certificates to transfer carbon intensity attributes associated with low carbon hydrogen between ammonia producers and buyers. The subcommittee is working to schedule a kick-off meeting anticipated for late March or early April. Mr. Sappenfield stated that he and NAESB staff are in communication with the Ammonia Energy Association to gather additional information, including potential draft materials, in preparation for the kickoff meeting. This effort should be completed by early July. Additionally, the subcommittee also has a provisional item included in the 2026 WGQ Annual Plan regarding the development of electronic datasets and technical implementation guides to support the use of the Hydrogen Base Contract and ammonia addendum on Distributed Ledger Technology.

BOARD AND REGULATORY ACTIVITIES UPDATE: Mr. Booe, NAESB Executive Vice President and COO, provide the update. NAESB has not filed any formal reports with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. However, NAESB sent a letter to Commissioner Chang to acknowledge receipt of her concurrence to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR) on gas-electric coordination and to advise that NAESB is actively discussing her request related to gas-electric coordination standards within its Board Committees. The Board Strategy Committee met on January 30, 2026, to review five sets of comments received in response to Chairman of the NAESB Board of Director Desselle's request for input on actions NAESB could take related to Commissioner Chang's concurrence to FERC's NOPR or the 2024 Greenhouse Gas Reduction study conducted by the National Petroleum Council (NPC). These matters were further discussed at the Advisory Council meeting held on February 7, 2026. Discussions remain ongoing, with another Board Strategy Committee meeting scheduled for early March to review the Advisory Council's input and develop recommendations for the Board of Directors, including potential communications to the NPC, Commissioner Chang, or FERC. The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for April 23, 2026. The Executive Committee meetings will be held virtually from March 4 through March 5, 2026. Publication schedules for updated standards are currently anticipated to be mid-May for RMQ, late September for WGQ and mid-December for WEQ. The schedules remain flexible and NAESB staff is coordinating with Executive Committee chairs to finalize publication dates.

NEXT CONFERENCE CALL: The next NAESB Update Conference Call is scheduled for April 22, 2026 from 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Central. The agenda and any work papers will be posted on the NAESB Update Call page of the NAESB website, accessible at the following link: http://www.naesb.org/monthly_update.asp. We hope you can join us. If there



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are particular topics you would like to see covered or if you would like to receive additional information, please contact the NAESB Office by phone at (713) 356-0060 or email at naesb@naesb.org.

NAESB Update Conference Call Participant	
List February 18, 2026 1:00 PM Central	
Name	Organization
Linda Benally	Pinnacle West Capital Corp.
Jonathan Booe	NAESB
Dick Brooks	Business Cyber Guardian
Mary Brown	OATI
Christopher Burden	Enbridge Inc.
Zach Buus	Bonneville Power Administration
Donald Coffin	Green Button Alliance
Jay Dibble	Chevron
Reece Dobson	Big Data Energy Services
Steven Fiorella	Southern Company
John Fitzgerald	TVA
Karen Frank	MISO
Jesse Garrido	LG&E and KU Services
Megan Hagan	Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline
Brandon Hajek	Northern Natural Gas
Anna Hartung	ONEOK, Inc.
Ronnie Hensley	Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline
Cory Herbolsheimer	NV Energy
Sadon Hughes	Boardwalk Pipelines
Jesse Irving	Emera Energy
Regina Jang	NAESB
Tom Kraft	ONEOK, Inc.
Darren Lamb	California ISO
Steven McCord	TC Energy Corporation
Megan Miller	Enbridge Inc.
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Debbie Santolin	Southern Company
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Lindsey Saunders	Quorum Software Solutions
Sara Shepard	NorthWestern Energy
Lisa Sieg	LG&E and KU Services
John Skeath	NERC
Carolyn Stone	Cascade Natural Gas Corporation
Sarah Tomalty	BP Global
Caroline Trum	NAESB
Jason Williams	Southern Company