##### February 25, 2020

**TO:** All Interested Parties

**FROM:** Caroline Trum, NAESB Deputy Director

**RE: WEQ Parallel Flow Visualization Effort**

On February 18, 2020, the WEQ Executive Committee adopted the recommendation from the WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS) in support of the Parallel Flow Visualization (PFV) enhanced congestion management process (2019 WEQ Annual Plan Items 1.a and 1.b). The adoption of the recommendation by the WEQ Executive Committee ended the full-staffing period, and the standards are currently out for membership ratification. The ratification period ends on March 20, 2020. Any ratified standards will be incorporated into Version 3.3 of the WEQ Business Practice Standards and filed with the Commission.

The PFV enhanced congestion management process is an effort within the Eastern Interconnection to improve upon congestion management procedures through the use of real-time data by the Interchange Distribution Calculator (IDC), the tool that assists reliability coordinators in the implementation of Transmission Loading Relief Procedure-related business practice and reliability standards. The IDC tool uses submitted data to calculate and provide curtailments and relief obligations during periods of congestion. As demonstrated during the PFV field trial, this enhanced congestion management process leads to increased granularity in the factors contributing to congestion and will provide reliability coordinators with a better view of the current operating state of the bulk electric system which results in more accurate assignments of relief obligations.

NAESB staff has been coordinating with both NERC and EIDSN, Inc. leadership throughout the PFV effort. In June, EIDSN, Inc. provided a report to NAESB and NERC following the conclusion of the PFV field trial. The report indicated the PFV enhanced congestion management process is working as designed by the standards and represents a considerable improvement over the current IDC tool methodology. This report was provided to the Commission as part of a status report filed by NAESB in July 2019 and drafted with the support of NERC and EIDSN, Inc.

In September, the Chair of the EIDSN, Inc. IDC Steering Committee presented to the NERC Operating Reliability Subcommittee (ORS) the committee’s endorsement of the report and conclusion that no modifications are needed to the PFV-related WEQ Business Practice Standards to address any reliability issues. NERC ORS leadership then communicated this endorsement to the NERC Operating Committee. During the October 15, 2019 meeting, the WEQ Executive Committee reviewed the EIDSN Report and NERC’s reliability assessment of the PFV field trial and directed the WEQ BPS to complete standard development efforts.

Following direction from the WEQ Executive Committee provided during its October 15, 2019 meeting, WEQ BPS voted out the PFV-related recommendation in November. The recommendation proposed numerous modifications to WEQ-008 Transmission Loading Relief – Eastern Interconnection as well as consistency revisions to WEQ-000 Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Definition of Terms. The WEQ Executive Committee extended the comment period to 45 days to allow industry adequate time to review the recommendation.