##### February 19, 2019

**TO:** All Interested Parties

**FROM:** Elizabeth Mallett, NAESB Deputy Director

**RE: Open Field Message Bus (OpenFMB) Activities Update**

On March 19, 2019, the OpenFMB Task Force will hold a conference call to continue to discuss a standards request submitted by SSL.com at the end of last year. The standards request asked that NAESB develop baseline requirements for Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and digital certificate issuance in the RMQ.26 Open Field Message Bus Model Business Practices, extending implementation of the NAESB PKI Certification Program to OpenFMB. As explained in the request, there are currently no standards for the issuance and maintenance of x509 certificates in the OpenFMB Model Business Practices, as it is left up to the implementer to create their own self-signed Root CA and adopt internal standards. Further, the standards request seeks to establish baseline requirements to properly secure the implementation and root key materials.

The OpenFMB framework seeks to leverage a non-proprietary and standards-based reference architecture platform, which consists of internet protocol (IP) networking and Internet of Things (IoT) messaging protocols to enable information exchange between devices on the grid. Following the general, operational, and management model business practices that make up the bulk of the standards, the OpenFMB reference architecture also contains XML Schema Definition (XSD) profiles, and Platform Independent Model (PIM) information. Since its ratification by NAESB in March of 2016, OpenFMB has been showcased at several DistribuTECH conventions and OpenFMB test beds have been set up across the country.

In 2018, the OpenFMB user group transitioned from the Smart Electric Power Alliance (SEPA) to the Utility Communications Architecture International Users Group (UCAIug). As stated on the UCAIug website, the OpenFMB user group role is “to accelerate the adoption of NAESB’s OpenFMB framework standard by organizing outreach activities to share lessons learned and potential applications (or use cases) when implementing the OpenFMB framework.” Further, a separate testing branch of the UCAIug, the Interoperability and Testing Certification Authority, will ensure conformance to the OpenFMB Model Business Practices. NAESB and UCAIug are currently working together to coordinate on this effort and NAESB has accepted an advisory role in the UCAIug OpenFMB Users Group meetings.