##### June 14, 2018

**TO:** All Interested Parties

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

**RE: NAESB Update Call – ESPI and Ontario Activities**

On May 3, 2018, the Ontario Ministry of Energy posted an update to the Environmental and Regulatory Registries related to the *Regulatory Proposal for Province-Wide Implementation of Green Button* (2017). The update announced that the Ontario Ministry of Energy intends to extend the time table for the regulatory proposal that would make it a requirement for Ontarian electric and natural gas utilities to implement Green Button Download My Data and Connect My Data programs. The new timeline will allow additional time for the development of implementation support documents and in order to consider the feedback on the regulator proposal received by stakeholders during the 54-day comment period.

As the foundation of the Green Button, ESPI, provides best practices, use cases, models, and an XML schema that facilitates the exchange of a retail customer’s energy usage data between their designated data custodian and an authorized third-party service provider. Currently ESPI is utilized in the gas and electric markets and is set to expand to water and solar as well. In fact, since the Green Button Initiative started in the United States in 2011, over 150 utilities and service providers have committed to providing more than 60 million US households with access to their energy usage information. Beginning as a response to the White House call to action challenging utilities to provide their customers with access to their energy usage information via a “Green Button” on their websites, the Green Button Initiative has now expanded beyond the borders of the United States. In Canada, more than half of the Ontario-based consumers, totaling 3 million residences and businesses, now have access to their Green Button data.

As you may remember, back in November, NAESB submitted comments in response to the proposed regulation, explaining NAESB’s effort to update the REQ.21 Energy Services Provider Interface (ESPI) Standard in 2018. The ESPI Task Force reconvened in April to review and discuss a draft version of the ESPI Standard. Following that meeting, the draft ESPI Standard was posted for an informal industry comment period. The next ESPI Task Force meeting will be announced by the NAESB office and is open to all interested parties.