Via email & posting

August 1, 2022

**TO:** NAESB Board of Directors, Executive Committee (EC) Members, EC Alternates, NAESB Members, NAESB Advisory Council, and Interested Parties

**FROM:** Michael Desselle, NAESB Chairman of the Board of Directors

**RE:** Joint FERC-NERC Letter to NAESB – July 29, 2022

Dear NAESB Members, NAESB Advisory Council and Interested Parties

As you may know, on Friday, July 29, 2022, the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), Richard Glick, and the President and CEO of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), Jim Robb, submitted a letter[[1]](#footnote-1) to NAESB requesting that our organization take steps to convene the forum discussed in Key Recommendation 7 of the FERC, NERC, and Regional Entity Staff Report on the February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (Report)[[2]](#footnote-2) issued in November of last year. Specifically, the recommendation purposes the establishment of a forum for legislatures, regulators, and industry participants to “identify concrete actions (consistent with the forum participants jurisdiction) to improve the reliability of the natural gas infrastructure system necessary to support the Bulk Electric System,” and to “produce one or more plans for implementing the concrete actions, with deadlines, which identify the applicable entities with responsibility for each action.” The recommendation also provides a list of thirteen specific topics and/or questions to be discussed and considered by the forum.

As stated in the letter, NAESB has a long history of convening diverse groups to address complex industry issues, and over nearly three decades, our organization has demonstrated that, through our process, we can find consensus among our participants on solutions to the most challenging problems faced by the industry. I am confident that, once again, our organization will rise to the occasion and respond to this request in a diligent and considerate manner. Over the next several weeks, I will be working with NAESB staff and coordinating with FERC, NERC and the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners to schedule a series of meetings to initiate this effort. As are all NAESB meetings, the forum meetings will be open to the public, and I am hopeful that all parties will come to the table ready to contribute and collaborate with an open mind.

As Chairman of the Board of Directors, I am extremely honored that Chairman Glick and Jim Robb have entrusted NAESB with this important effort, and I look forward to working with our members and other interested parties to meet the challenge.

With Best Regards,

Michael Desselle, NAESB Chairman, North American Energy Standards Board

cc: Ms. Rae McQuade, President, North American Energy Standards Board

Mr. Jonathan Booe, Vice President & COO, North American Energy Standards Board

1. The letter can be found through the following hyperlink: [https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/FERC\_NERC\_Letter\_072922\_to\_NAESB.pd](https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/FERC_NERC_Letter_072922_to_NAESB.pdf)f [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The Report can be found through the following hyperlink: <https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/ferc_nerc_regional_entity_staff_report_Feb2021_cold_weather_outages_111621.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)