##### September 24, 2015

**TO:** All Interested Parties

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

**RE: RMQ Open Field Message Bus (Open FMB) Task Force and Green Button Update**

**Update on the OpenFMB Task Force–**

In response to Standards Request R14008, the NAESB Retail Markets Quadrant (RMQ) Open Field Message Bus (OpenFMB) Task Force is continuing efforts to identify new model business practices to support the OpenFMB architecture. The OpenFMB framework for power systems devices 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. Created by the RMQ Executive Committee and co-chaired by Joe Zhou of Ernst & Young and Stuart Laval of Duke Energy, the NAESB Retail OpenFMB Task Force held its kickoff meeting on April 17, 2015.

The task force has met ten times since that first call in order to focus on the development of a recommendation for REQ.26 OpenFMB Model Business Practices. Over the course of the meetings, the task force has reviewed the Duke Energy Distributed Intelligence Platform document and utilized three microgrid-related use cases developed by the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel (SGIP) as a reference for the NAESB OpenFMB Model Business Practices. The participants have also drafted the OpenFMB Model Business Practices Development Plan which anticipates the task force voting out the Model Business Practices in the fourth quarter of 2015.

During the upcoming SGIP Annual Conference held in New Orleans, LA on November 3-5, 2015, an OpenFMB field demonstration based on the three microgrid-related use cases will be showcased. The OpenFMB project will also appear at DistribuTECH in Orlando, FL on February 9-11, 2016. The next OpenFMB Task Force conference call will be held on October 16, 2015. During the call the participants will continue working on a draft recommendation for REQ.26. As always, this conference call is open to any interested parties.

A response to a 2011 White House-led call to action, the Green Button Initiative challenges utilities in the United States to provide customers with simple and secure access to their energy usage data in a computer- and consumer-friendly format via a “Green Button” on electric utility websites. The NAESB staff has continued to coordinate with the Green Button Alliance to support their activities related to the Green Button Initiative. The Green Button Alliance is an organization that facilitates compliance, development, and employment of the Green Button Initiative by providing certification of implementations, marketing, and education.

The NAESB REQ.21 Energy Services Provider Interface Model Business Practices (ESPI) serves a critical role as the foundation for Green Button. ESPI consists of two components: 1) a common XML format for energy usage information and 2) a data exchange protocol which allows for the automatic transfer of data from a utility to a third party based on customer authorization. The ESPI Model Business Practices has been endorsed as part of the Green Button Initiative by the United States Department of Energy. The Green Button Initiative was launched in January 2012 and, today, more than 150 utilities and service providers have committed to providing more than 60 million U.S. households (altogether 100 million people) access to their own Green Button energy data. Access to Green Button data allows utility customers to leverage the information to save energy in their businesses and homes. Additionally, a growing number of companies are offering products, services, and apps that utilize Green Button data.