| **NORTH AMERICAN ENERGY STANDARDS BOARD 2026 ANNUAL PLAN for the WHOLESALE GAS QUADRANT**  **Proposed by the WGQ Annual Plan Subcommittee on October 8, 2025** | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Item Description** | | | | **Completion[[1]](#endnote-1)** | **Assignment[[2]](#endnote-2)** |
| **1. Cybersecurity and Electronic Delivery Mechanism** | | | | | |
|  |  | Review WGQ Cybersecurity Related Standards Manual and Appendices and Quadrant Electronic Delivery Mechanism Related Standards Manual, including data fields and minimum technical characteristics, and revise as needed.  Status: Not Started | | 3rd Q, 2026 | WGQ EDM Subcommittee |
| **2. Update Standards Matrix Tool for Ease of Use[[3]](#endnote-3)** | | | | | |
|  |  | Update the reference tool developed for Version 4.0 to reflect modifications applicable to Version 4.1.  Status: Not Started | | 2026 | WGQ IR/Technical Subcommittee |
| **3. Update Prior Standards for digital representation (Blockchain) of natural gas trade events** | | | | | |
|  |  | After development testing of prior Standards for digital representation of natural gas trade events, consistent with NAESB WGQ Standard No. 6.3.1 – NAESB Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas (Base Contract), update prior standards based on results of testing.  Status: Not Started | | 2026 | Joint WGQ BPS/EDM/Contracts Subcommittee |
| **4. Nominations Related Standards** | | | | | |
|  | a. | Investigate the usage of existing WGQ Nominations Related Standards data elements and determine if modifications are needed  Status: Not Started | |  |  |
|  | b. | As determined by Item 4.a, make updates to data elements that can be replaced by business practices, technology and/or are no longer needed and make corresponding changes  Status: Not Started | |  |  |
| **Program of Standards Maintenance & Fully Staffed Standards Work** | | | | | |
|  | Business Practice Requests | | | Ongoing | Assigned by the EC[[4]](#endnote-4) |
|  | Continue review against plan for migration to ANSI ASC X12 new versions as needed and coordinate such activities with DISA. | | | Ongoing | Assigned by the EC3 |
|  | Information Requirements and Technical Mapping of Business Practices | | | Ongoing | Assigned by the EC3 |
|  | Interpretations for Clarifying Language Ambiguities | | | Ongoing | Assigned by the EC4 |
|  | Maintenance of Code Values and Other Technical Matters | | | Ongoing | Assigned by the EC3 |
|  | Maintenance of eTariff Standards | | | As Requested | Assigned by the EC4 |
| **Provisional Activities** | | | | | |
| 1. | Upon a request or as directed by NAESB Board, review and update, as necessary, the CG Addendum to address new regulations or new market developments related to CG transactions under the NAESB Base Contract. | | | | |
| 2. | Upon a request or as directed by NAESB Board or a relevant jurisdictional entity, consider developing and/or modifying business practice standards, as needed, in response to industry reports as presented in 2026. | | | | |
| 3. | Upon a request or as directed by NAESB Board or a relevant jurisdictional entity, consider developing and/or modifying business practice standards that reflect best practices that will provide stronger operating reliability from production/supply/transport, for example, during extreme weather conditions, and more clear communications and business processes around force majeure declarations during critical operating periods. | | | | |
| 4. | Upon a request or as directed by NAESB Board, prepare a Technical Implementation of Business Practices document, including electronic datasets, as necessary, for the NAESB Hydrogen Base Contract and its Canadian Addendum. | | | | |

**Wholesale Gas Quadrant Executive committee and Subcommittee Structure**

**Wholesale Gas Quadrant**

**Executive Committee (WGQ EC)**

**Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS)**

**Contracts Subcommittee**

**Information Requirements (IR) Subcommittee**

**Technical Subcommittee**

**Electronic Delivery Mechanism (EDM) Subcommittee**

**Technical**

**Implementation**

**Task Forces & Working Groups**

**Practices**

**Development**

The translation of business practices to usable uniform business transactions is accomplished through the definition of information requirements for the data, and mapping of that data into specific electronic transactions. This translation is performed by IR and Technical subcommittees and completes the standards development process, often referred to as “full staffing.” Both IR and Technical work in tandem to complete this crucial technical implementation activity. Until these steps have been completed, the process is incomplete, and in many cases, the business practices cannot be used.

**Interpretations Subcommittee**

**NAESB 2026 WGQ EC and Subcommittee Leadership:**

Executive Committee: Jim Buccigross, Chair, Rachel Hogge, Vice-Chair

Business Practices Subcommittee: Willis McCluskey, Ben Schoene

Information Requirements Subcommittee: Rachel Hogge, Nichole Lopez

Technical Subcommittee: Kim Van Pelt, Steven McCord

Contracts Subcommittee: Keith Sappenfield

Electronic Delivery Mechanism Subcommittee: Leigh Spangler, Christopher Burden

1. **End Notes 2026 WGQ Annual Plan:**

   Dates in the completion column are by end of the quarter for completion by the assigned committee. The dates do not necessarily mean that the standards are fully staffed to be implementable by the industry, and/or ratified by membership. If one item is completed earlier than planned, another item can begin earlier and possibly complete earlier than planned. There are no begin dates on the plan. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. The assignments are abbreviated. The abbreviations and committee structure can be found at the end of the annual plan document. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. As implementation of business issues are presented to the Information Requirements Subcommittee and Technical Subcommittee, those issues will be given precedence over 2026 WGQ Annual Plan Item No. 2. [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. The EC assigns maintenance of existing standards on a request-by-request basis. [↑](#endnote-ref-4)