

To: Balancing Authorities
Transmission Providers
Purchasing and Selling Entities
Reliability Coordinators

March 1, 2010

e-Tag Version 1.8.1 Implementation Update

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) Joint Electric Scheduling Subcommittee (JESS) announce the implementation of a new version of the Electronic Tagging (e-Tag) scheduled for March 30, 2010.

The JESS and the e-Tag vendors began developing the e-Tag Version 1.8.1 [specification](#), now maintained by NAESB, in the first quarter of 2008. Since that time, the specifications and schema have been posted for industry comment, and were approved by the NAESB WEQ Executive Committee on October 27, 2009.

The majority of the changes are transparent to the user and will have minimal impact from a user's perspective. The changes the user may notice are:

- An additional URL may now be registered in the NERC TSIN registry by Agent and Approval entities for secondary services. This secondary service URL receives a copy of all e-Tag messages distributed to the primary service URL. Users and/or their vendors may process the messages sent to the secondary service URL consistent with the NERC reliability standards and NAESB business practices.
- The e-Tag authors are no longer required to include a reason when withdrawing a request.
- The e-Tag specification now include an appendix containing specifications that are unique to a particular interconnection.
- The e-Tag author, Source BA, and Sink BA may modify DYNAMIC and PSEUDOTIE type e-Tag energy and loss profiles after the scheduling period has passed in order to reflect actual metered values, regardless of reliability limits and transmission profiles. The transmission profile(s) may no longer be changed after the scheduling period has passed.

A more comprehensive description of the e-Tag 1.8.1 changes are contained in the 1.8.1 [change narrative document](#).

Successful vendor interoperability testing took place during February 2010. The JESS has developed a 1.8 to 1.8.1 [cut-over plan](#). As such, NERC, NAESB, and the vendors are committed to implement version 1.8.1 on March 30, 2010.

Further announcements will be made as appropriate and will be posted on the [NERC “electronic tagging \(e-Tag\)”](#) website and the [NAESB Wholesale Electric Quadrant “JESS”](#) website.

I would like to thank the JESS, the vendors, and Jim Hansen (recently retired co-Chair, JESS) for their leadership, contributions, and cooperation in developing e-Tag 1.8.1.

Robert Harshbarger
Robert Harshbarger, Co-Chair