##### August 11, 2017

**TO:** All Interested Parties

**FROM:** Caroline Trum, NAESB Deputy Director

**RE: Update to the Board of Directors – WEQ Coordination (NERC and EIDSN)**

NAESB and NERC engage in continuous coordination efforts to ensure the organizations remain in lock-step regarding commercial and reliability industry issues. As part of this effort, NAESB staff, WEQ leadership, and NERC staff hold monthly conference calls to discuss coordination issues. Recent topics of discussion have included Standards Request R16008, cybersecurity, and the proposed NERC 2018 – 2020 Reliability Standards Development Plan.

On July 10, 2017, the WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS) and the WEQ Coordinate Interchange Scheduling Subcommittee (CISS), jointly voted out a recommendation in support of Standards Request R16008/2017 WEQ Annual Plan Item 1.d.i – Modifications to WEQ-004 Coordinate Interchange Business Practice Standards for dynamic tags and pseudo-tie type e-Tags. The recommendation proposes the incorporation of two NERC Reliability Standard requirements related to dynamic tagging and pseudo-ties applicable to the Purchase Selling Entity (PSE). In 2015, NERC removed the PSE from the NERC Compliance Registry following FERC’s approval of NERC’s petition to do so; however, the standards requirements referencing PSEs remained in the NERC Reliability Standards. NAESB staff coordinated with NERC staff on the issue, and in May, NERC provided a letter indicating that the NERC requirements referenced in Standards Request R16008 were effectively retired when NERC removed the PSE functional entity registration category.[[1]](#footnote-1)

In July, the WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee began work on its two annual plan items to determine if any changes need to be made to the NAESB Business Practice Standards or NAESB Accreditation Requirements for Authorized Certification Authorities (ACAs). As part of this effort, the subcommittee is reviewing two NERC standards development efforts regarding the NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Reliability Standards: NERC Project 2016-02 Modifications to CIP Standards and NERC Project 2016-03 Cyber Security Supply Chain Risk Management. The subcommittee noted that the standards being developed as part of NERC Project 2016-03 may impact the WEQ Business Practice Standards. NAESB staff is working with NERC staff to seek more information about the new standards being developed.

On July 25, 2017, NAESB submitted comments on the proposed NERC 2018 – 2020 Reliability Standards Development Plan. The comments, developed as a result of a review on the proposed plan performed by the WEQ Standards Review Subcommittee, identify three ongoing NERC standards development efforts for NAESB to monitor as well as four upcoming periodic reviews of NERC Reliability Standards that may impact the WEQ Business Practice Standards.

NAESB, NERC, and the Eastern Interconnection Data Sharing Network (EIDSN) continue to coordinate on the Parallel Flow Visualization (PFV) effort. Currently, the IDC Steering Committee and IDC Working Group, under the EIDSN, are working with the IDC tool software vendor to test and implement the needed changes to conduct the PFV field trial. As recently indicated to NAESB staff by the Chair of the IDC Steering Committee, due to unanticipated delays in software development, the August start-date for the field trial has been postponed. Once the field trial begins, NAESB will coordinate with NERC and the EIDSN to draft a status report to the Commission regarding the new timeline for the eighteen month PFV field trial.

1. Communication from NERC: <https://naesb.org//pdf4/weq_bps_ciss061617w1.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)