##### November 18, 2015

**TO:** All Interested Parties

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

**RE: WEQ and WGQ eForms Effort Update**

**Update on WEQ and WGQ eForms Effort Update –**

The WEQ/WGQ FERC Forms Subcommittee has held two meetings following the previous NAESB Board of Directors meeting. On September 14, 2015, the subcommittee met to complete the review of the informal comments submitted in response to the preliminary topics to be addressed work paper, a document that identified the preliminary determinations that should be made by the subcommittee before beginning the standards development process and could serve as guidance throughout the process. During the meeting, the subcommittee worked to finalize the work paper and reach consensus on several issues. Following subcommittee finalization, the work paper was informally communicated to FERC staff.

On November 13, 2015, the subcommittee held an additional conference call to review the finalized work paper, which included a process flow providing a high level picture of the form submittal process, perform an initial review of company identification information provided by FERC staff, and begin discussing the data dictionary and XML schema formatting. FERC staff has been working closely with the subcommittee and regularly participates in subcommittee meetings. The subcommittee standards development process is dependent upon FERC staff providing additional documentation to the subcommittee. During the meeting, FERC staff committed to providing the subcommittee with an analysis regarding the company identification information that should be included in the XML schemas for the various forms as well as a sample XML schema the subcommittee can use as a template.

On April 16, 2015, the Commission issued the [*Order Instituting Proceeding to Develop Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms*](https://naesb.org/pdf4/ferc041615_electronic_filing_protocols_forms.pdf)*,* informing the industry of the Commission’s intention to replace the submittal format of FERC Forms 1, 1-F, 2, 2-A, 3-Q electric, 3-Q gas, 6, 6-Q, FERC-60 and FERC-714 from the software Visual FoxPro to an XML file format. In the order, the Commission proposed the use of the NAESB process to develop the XML schemas and any accompanying documentation, citing the success of the industry’s collaboration through NAESB during the eTariff filings project. In response, the NAESB Board of Directors took action to create an annual plan item for the WEQ and WGQ to develop and/or modify standards consistent with the order.