##### December 2, 2019

**TO:** NAESB Board of Directors and All Interested Parties

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

**RE: RMQ Green Button/ESPI and OpenFMB Update**

Green Button/REQ.21 Energy Services Provider Interface (ESPI) Standard

As the January 30, 2020 RMQ Publication date approaches, the Retail Markets Quadrant (RMQ) Executive Committee anticipates scheduling a conference call in mid-December to consider three recommendations. Two of the recommendations on the agenda contain modifications and additions to the NAESB REQ.21 Energy Services Provider Interface (ESPI) Model Business Practices. In response to Standards Request R19010, submitted by the Green Button Alliance, the ESPI Task Force added numerous schema attributes to the Retail Customer Schema. Under Standards Request R19012, also submitted by the Green Button Alliance, the ESPI Task Force clarified the Atom Link usage in the Energy Usage Information Model and the Retail Customer Model sections. Both recommendations were posted for a thirty day formal comment period which concluded on December 2, 2019. To date, no comments have been received on either recommendation.

As an industry led effort to provide utility customers with easy and secure access to their energy usage information, the Green Button boasts the NAESB ESPI Model Business Practices and schema as its critical component. Specifically, ESPI provides an interface enabling retail customer authorization for the exchange of energy usage information from data custodians to third parties. Launched in 2012, the Green Button Initiative has led to over 150 utilities and service providers committing to provide more than 60 million U.S. households, altogether 100 million people, with access to their Green Button energy data.

Open Field Message Bus (OpenFMB) Model Business Practices

During the October RMQ Executive Committee meeting, five recommendations for standards requests developed by the OpenFMB Task Force were approved. First, Standards Request R18012, submitted by SSL.com, requested that the task force develop baseline requirements for Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and digital certificate issuance in OpenFMB. The task force held four conference calls to discuss the item and, on April 26, 2019, voted to take no action on the recommendation. The rationale in the recommendation stated that the existing OpenFMB Model Business Practices sufficiently address areas of PKI and digital certificates through reference to a National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) standard. Per the NAESB process, this recommendation for no action was not posted for ratification.

On November 20, 2019, the NAESB RMQ membership ratified the remaining four recommendations developed by the OpenFMB Task Force and approved at the October Executive Committee meeting – R19002, R19003, R19004, and R19005. R19002 was submitted to the NAESB office from Open Energy Solutions, Inc. and asked NAESB to restructure and clarify the OpenFMB Model Business Practices to emphasize how a Utility Service Provider develops its Business Case driven OpenFMB implementation. The recommendation for R19002 was voted out of the OpenFMB Task Force during its May 17, 2019 conference call. Submitted by Xtensible Solutions, LLC, R19003 requested an update to the OpenFMB data modeling approach to draw upon multiple Platform Independent Models. After three meetings, the OpenFMB Task Force developed modifications to the OpenFMB Model Business Practices in response to R19003 and voted out the recommendation on May 17, 2019. Standards Request R19004 was submitted by NIST request to review, update, and develop OpenFMB Model Business Practices to support modern cybersecurity best practices. After five meetings, the task force voted out the recommendation on May 17, 2019. Submitted by Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Standards Request R19005 requests an update to the OpenFMB Platform Specific Model approach and the OpenFMB publish-subscribe protocols best practices. The OpenFMB Task Force held three calls to discuss R19005 and voted out the recommendation during its June 14, 2019 conference call. The four recommendations have been incorporated into the RMQ.26 OpenFMB Model Business Practices, are now available as a final action to the industry, and will be included in the next publication of the RMQ Model Business Practices.