2020 WEQ Annual Plan Item 3.f Initial Considerations

1. Should the CISS consider the development of an optional specification to automate the NSI checkout process?

* the specification/standard must not conflict with the WIT tool in the Western Interconnection
* the current expertise of the CISS is focused upon e-tag and the technical knowledge required for NSI automation differs
  1. Pros:
  + Provides common reference for standardizing the checkout process
  + Industry stakeholders have opportunity to engage and define the needs for the specification
  + Modernizes an age-old manual process
  1. Cons:
  + Requires industry support to maintain common specification
  + Existing implementations in the Eastern Interconnection may already be addressing this
  + Will require significant effort and commitment to develop NSI v1.0
  + Benefits may not justify the cost of industry time

**Straw poll:** The CISS needs to continue consideration of a specification or guideline for the automation of the NSI checkout process?

**Support: II**

**Oppose: II**

1. Would standalone standards or development of standards within an existing book be necessary with an optional specification?
   1. Pros:
   * Provides guidelines for when and how to utilize the specification
   1. Cons:
   * Current processes are implemented for the NERC requirement and additional standards create increased requirements
   * Specifications hold lower overhead for maintenance and approval for adoption compared to standards, and additional overhead could potentially delay updates to the specification
2. Would standalone standards or development of standards within an existing book be necessary without an optional specification?
   1. Pros:
   2. Cons:
   * Current processes are implemented for the NERC requirement and additional standards create increased requirements
3. Should the subcommittee modify an existing standard to link to an optional specification?
   1. Pros:
   2. Cons:
4. Start here:Subcommittee shift approach to define the common attributes that may be incorporated into a specification or standard before determining the path forward on a parking lot?