| **NORTH AMERICAN ENERGY STANDARDS BOARD** **2024 ANNUAL PLAN for the WHOLESALE ELECTRIC QUADRANT   Adopted by the Board of Directors on September 5, 2024 with proposed revisions by the WEQ Executive Committee on October 23, 2024** | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Item Description** | | | **Completion[[1]](#endnote-1)** | **Assignment[[2]](#endnote-2)** |
| **1.** | **Develop business practices standards as needed to complement reliability standards** | | | | |
|  | Develop business practice standards to support and complement NERC reliability standards, NERC policies and NERC standards authorization requests (SARs). Current NAESB activities underway to develop business practice standards that are supportive of this annual plan item are: | | | | |
|  | a) | Revise as needed WEQ-023 Modeling Business Practice Standards to support any FERC directives or Final Orders, including in Docket Nos. RM05-5-029, RM05-5-030, RM19-16-000, RM19-17-000, and AD15-5-000[[3]](#footnote-1)  Status: Completed | | 4th Q, 2024 | BPS |
|  | b) | Review annually, at a minimum, the current version of the NAESB Electronic Tagging Functional Specification and make revisions as necessary to ensure the specification continues to be supportive of applicable NERC Reliability Standards and NAESB WEQ Business Practice Standards and is reflective of current cybersecurity best practices  Status: Completed | | 3rd Q, 2024 | CISS |
|  | c) | Review NERC Reliability Standards EOP-011, EOP-012, and TOP-002 and develop and/or modify any necessary business practice standards to support reliability requirements developed by NERC to address the FERC-NERC-Regional Entity Staff Report: February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States  Status: Completed | | 4th Q, 2024 | BPS |
|  | d) | Develop and/or modify any necessary business practice standards, including revisions to WEQ-022 EIR Business Practice Standards, to complement and support new organization registration roles for inverter-based resources within the NERC Compliance Registry  Status: Completed | | 3rd Q, 2024 | CISS |
| **2.** | **Develop business practices standards to improve the current operation of the wholesale electric market and develop and maintain business practice and communication standards for OASIS and Electronic Scheduling** | | | | |
|  | a) | Review the WEQ OASIS Business Practice Standards for needed modifications based on implementation and operational experiences since the adoption of WEQ Version 003.3  Status: Completed | | 3rd Q, 2024 | OASIS |
|  | b) | Consider and potentially develop modifications to WEQ-004 Coordinate Interchange and/or the NAESB Electronic Tagging Functional Specification to require that all entities actively approve e-Tags  Status: Completed | | 1st Q, 2024 | CISS |
| **3.** | **Develop and/or maintain standard communication protocols and cybersecurity business practices as needed.** | | | | |
|  | a) | Review annually, at a minimum, WEQ-012 and the accreditation requirements for Authorized Certification Authorities to determine if any changes are needed to meet market conditions.[[4]](#footnote-2)  Status: Completed | | 3rd Q, 2024 | Cybersecurity Subcommittee |
|  | b) | Evaluate and modify standards as needed to support and/or complement the current version of the NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection Standards[[5]](#footnote-3) and any other activities of NERC and the FERC[[6]](#footnote-4) related to cybersecurity.  Status: Completed | | 3rd Q, 2024 | Cybersecurity Subcommittee |
|  | c) | Review cybersecurity protections, such as Public Key Infrastructure (PKI), that may be necessary to secure electronic communications for distributed energy resources (DERs), and develop business practices as needed.  Status: Started | | 2024 | BPS/Cybersecurity Subcommittee, RMQ BPS and RMQ IR/TEIS |
|  | d) | Consider and develop business practice standards for cybersecurity disclosure best practice policies, such as software supply chain risks, to support industry implementation of any applicable regulations  Status: Not Started | | 2024 | BPS/Cybersecurity Subcommittee |
| **4.** | **Distributed Ledger Technology** | | | | |
|  | a) | Distributed Ledger Technology for Power Trade Events | | | |
|  |  | i. | Review power trade events to streamline the power accounting close cycle to determine if WEQ Business Practice Standards should be developed utilizing Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT).  Status: Not Started | 2024 | WEQ Executive Committee |
|  |  | ii. | Develop Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) WEQ Business Practice Standards and/or protocols for power trade events to streamline the power accounting close cycle, if needed based upon review.  Status: Not Started | 2024 | WEQ Executive Committee |
| **5.** | **Develop and/or modify standards for information and reporting requirements to support distributed energy resources in front and behind the meter.** | | | | |
|  | a) | Consider and develop of business practices to support the integration of DER management systems by the industry  Status: Not Started | | 2024 | BPS and RMQ BPS |
|  | b) | Develop additional business practices as needed, to address any wholesale market specific conditions to support the integration of DER management systems by the industry  Status: Not Started | | 2024 | BPS |
|  | c) | Consider and develop business practices to support the integration of DER/DER aggregation registries by the industry  Status: Not Started | | 2024 | BPS and RMQ BPS |
|  | d) | Develop additional business practices as needed, to address any wholesale market specific conditions to support the integration of DER/DER aggregation registries by the industry  Status: Not Started | | 2024 | BPS |
| **6.** | **Gas-Electric Market Coordination** | | | | |
|  | Develop and/or modify business practice standards, as needed, in response to the FERC-NERC-Regional Entity Staff Report: February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South-Central United States or from the report on Winter Storm Elliott | | | | |
|  | a) | Review and modify the Gas / Electric Coordination Business Practice Standards and any corresponding standards to improve communication among the operators of production facilities (producers, gatherers, processors) and pipeline and storage facilities for the timely dissemination of this coordinated communication from the these facilities to and from relevant natural gas infrastructure entities, BAs, shippers, and end-use customers (i.e., Local Distribution Companies) as needed to enhance situational awareness during extreme cold weather events without endangering sensitive commercial information  Status: Completed | |  | Joint WGQ, WEQ, and RMQ Business Practice Subcommittees |
|  |  | i. | Develop and/or modify business practice standards for the communication of information about operational issues (e.g. location, estimated duration of outage) to and from BAs, LDCs, and shippers in anticipation of critical notices, OFOs or force majeure notices during extreme weather  Status: Completed | 3rd Q, 2024 | Joint WGQ, WEQ, and RMQ Business Practice Subcommittees |
|  |  | ii. | Develop and/or modify business practice standards for the communication of aggregated volume data or confirmed scheduled quantities for key upstream receipt points on the pipeline system during extreme cold weather events without endangering sensitive commercial information  Status: | 3rd Q, 2024 | Joint WGQ, WEQ, and RMQ Business Practice Subcommittees |
| **Provisional Activities** | | | | | |
| **1.** |  | **Optional Work to Extend Existing Standards** | | | |
|  | a) | Develop business practice standards, as needed, to support purchase and sale transactions related to hydrogen | | | |
| **2.** |  | **Pending Regulatory or Legislative Action** | | | |
|  | a) | Determine potential NAESB action if needed to support FERC Notice of Proposed Policy Statement Carbon Pricing in Organized Wholesale Electricity Markets in Docket No. AD20-14-000 | | | |
|  | b) | Determine potential NAESB action, if needed, to support industry implementation of any FERC Order regarding the FERC’s Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Building for the Future Through Electric Regional Transmission Planning and Cost Allocation and Generator Interconnection in Docket No. RM21-17-000 | | | |
|  | c) | Determine potential NAESB action, if needed, should FERC take action on WEQ Version 004 | | | |
| **3.** |  | **Gas-Electric Market Coordination** | | | |
|  | a) | Develop and/or modify business practice standards, as needed, to address any proposed recommendations for standards development resulting from the NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization Forum | | | |

**Wholesale Electric Quadrant Executive committee and Subcommittee Structure**

**NAESB 2024 WEQ EC and Subcommittee Leadership**:

**Wholesale Electric Quadrant**

**Executive Committee (WEQ EC)**

**Standards Review Subcommittee (SRS)**

**Interpretations Subcommittee**

**OASIS Subcommittee**

**Coordinate Interchange Scheduling Subcommittee (CISS)**

**Scoping**

**Development**

**Cybersecurity Subcommittee**

**RMQ/WEQ DSM-EE Subcommittee**

**Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS)**

Executive Committee (EC): Joshua Phillips (Chair) and Ron Robinson (Vice Chair)

Standards Review Subcommittee (SRS): Ron Robinson

Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS): Joshua Phillips and Lisa Sieg

Open Access Same Time Information System (OASIS) Subcommittee: Rob Arbitelle, Ken Quimby, Matt Schingle, J.T. Wood and Mike Steigerwald

Coordinate Interchange Scheduling Subcommittee (CISS): Zack Buus and Nik Browning

Cybersecurity Subcommittee: Jim Buccigross

Inactive Subcommittees:

e-Tariff Joint WEQ/WGQ Subcommittee (e-Tariff): Keith Sappenfield (WGQ)

Interpretations Subcommittee: Vacant

Demand Side Management-Energy Efficiency (DSM-EE) Subcommittee (RMQ/WEQ): Vacant

FERC Forms Subcommittee (WEQ/WGQ): Leigh Spangler (WGQ), Dick Brooks (WEQ)

1. **End Notes WEQ 2024 Annual Plan:**

   Dates in the completion column are by end of the quarter for completion by the assigned committee, subcommittee or task force. The dates do not necessarily mean that the standards are fully staffed to be implementable by the industry, and/or ratified by membership. If one item is completed earlier than planned, another item can begin earlier and possibly complete earlier than planned. There are no begin dates on the plan. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. The assignments are abbreviated. The abbreviations and sub-committee structure can be found at the end of the annual plan document. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. In Paragraph 4 of FERC Order No. 873, issued on September 17, 2020, the Commission reiterated its intentions “to coordinate the effective dates of the retirement of the MOD A Reliability Standards with successor North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) business practice standards” and that the Commission would “determine the appropriate action regarding the proposed retirement of the MOD A Reliability Standards at a later time.” As part of FERC Order No. 676-J, issued on May 20, 2021, the Commission adopted, through the incorporation by reference process, the WEQ-023 Business Practice Standards as part of action on WEQ Version 003.3. Per the directives contained in FERC Order No. 676-J, industry compliance filings regarding the WEQ-023 Business Practice Standards are due twelve months after the implementation of WEQ Version 003.2, but on earlier than October 27, 2022. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
4. The “NAESB Accreditation Requirements for Authorized Certification Authorities” can be found at: <http://www.naesb.org/member_login_check.asp?doc=certification_specifications.docx>. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
5. <http://www.nerc.com/pa/Stand/Pages/CIPStandards.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
6. Including proceedings in FERC Docket No. RM20-19-000 (FERC Notice of Inquiry Equipment and Services Produced or Provided by Certain Entities Identified as Risks to National Security) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)