

NAESB Bulletin

March — July 2026 Volume 19, Issue 1

[Current 2026 Retail Annual Plan](#)
[Current 2026 WEQ Annual Plan](#)
[Current 2026 WGQ Annual Plan](#)

[NAESB Board of Directors](#)
[NAESB Executive Committee Members](#)
[NAESB Members](#)
[Membership Information](#)

2026 Calendar

March

3/4 - WEQ Executive Committee Meeting
3/5 - RMQ Executive Committee Meeting
3/5 - WGQ Executive Committee Meeting
3/13 - Joint WEQ BPS, RMQ BPS Call
3/16 - Board Strategy Committee Call
3/18 - WGQ BPS Call
3/24 - WEQ OASIS Call
3/30 - WEQ BPS Call
3/31 - WGQ Contracts Subcommittee Call

April

4/3 - Holiday - Good Friday
4/7 - WEQ SRS Call
4/8 - Joint WEQ BPS, WEQ CSS Call
4/9 - Joint WEQ BPS, RMQ BPS Call
4/14 - WEQ OASIS Call
4/16 - Understanding the NAESB WGQ Contracts Webinar Course
4/17 - Board Revenue Committee Call
4/20 - WEQ CISS Call
4/21 - WGQ BPS Call
4/22 - NAESB Update Call
4/23 - NAESB Board of Directors Call
4/29 - WGQ Contracts Subcommittee Call
4/30 - Joint WEQ BPS, WEQ CSS Call

May

5/4 - Joint WGQ EDM, RMQ IR/TEIS Call
5/12 - WEQ OASIS Call
5/14 - WGQ Contracts Subcommittee Call
5/18 - WEQ CISS Call
5/19 - Joint WGQ EDM, RMQ IR/TEIS Call
5/21 - Joint WEQ BPS, RMQ BPS Call
5/21 - Joint WEQ BPS, WEQ CSS Call
5/25 - Holiday - Memorial Day
5/27 - WGQ BPS Call
5/29 - WEQ CSS Call

June

6/1 - WEQ BPS Call
6/3 - WEQ SRS Call
6/4 - Joint WEQ BPS, RMQ BPS Call
6/5 - Joint WGQ IR/Technical Call
6/8 - Joint WEQ BPS, WEQ CSS Call
6/9 - WEQ OASIS Call
6/10 - NAESB Update Call
6/11 - Joint WGQ IR/Technical Call
6/16 - WEQ CISS Call
6/19 - Holiday - Juneteenth Day
6/23 - Joint WEQ BPS, WEQ CSS Call
6/26 - Board Strategy Committee Call
6/26 - Joint WGQ EDM, RMQ IR/TEIS Call
6/26 - Joint WEQ BPS, RMQ BPS Call
6/29 - WEQ CSS Call

July

7/2 - Holiday - Independence Day
7/3 - Holiday - Independence Day
7/7 - WEQ OASIS Call
7/14 - WEQ SRS Call
7/15 - WGQ EDM Call
7/16 - WGQ BPS Call
7/16 - Joint WEQ BPS, RMQ BPS Call
7/22 - Joint WEQ BPS, WEQ CSS Call

NAESB Publications:

On May 15, 2026, NAESB published Version 4.1 of the RMQ Model Business Practices. The latest version reflects several major development efforts and incorporates five final actions and four minor corrections approved by the RMQ between December 2023 and April 2026. Significant additions include the NAESB Base Contract for the Sale and Purchase of Distribution Grid Services from Distributed Energy Resource Aggregations and accompanying Conditions Precedent Addendum, as well as Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) Model Business Practices designed to support the automation of transactions utilizing the contract and addendum. Version 4.1 also includes cybersecurity enhancements and updates to the Energy Services Provider Interface (ESPI) standards supporting Green Button implementations in the United States and Canada.

Following publication of the RMQ standards, updated versions of the WGQ and WEQ Business Practice Standards are scheduled for release later this year. Version 4.1 of the WGQ Business Practice Standards is targeted for publication on September 25, 2026. The new release will include the new NAESB Base Contract for the Sale and Purchase of Hydrogen, a Canadian Addendum, and an accompanying frequently asked questions (FAQ) document. In addition, modifications to the Renewable Natural Gas Addendum were made to address regulatory and market developments affecting RNG transactions. The new version will also incorporate updated data elements and conditions throughout the standards that are intended to streamline the nomination process to reduce risk of errors and scheduling conflicts, expand contact information for capacity release transactions to facilitate more efficient communication between interested parties, and enhance the information provided through invoices. Finally, the new version will include the gas-electric coordination standards adopted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in May 2026.

To round out Version 4.1, the WGQ Executive Committee will be considering several proposed recommendations during an August meeting. To support cybersecurity, a recommendation will be considered to include multi-factor authentication for access to customer activities websites on pipeline electronic bulletin boards (EBBs). Additionally, new data elements have been proposed to include SWIFT banking codes and data related to swing contracts. All of these changes will improve operational efficiency and transparency of transactions and strengthen cybersecurity protections.

The Wholesale Electric Quadrant (WEQ) is scheduled to publish Version 004.1 of the WEQ Business Practice Standards in December 2026. The publication will include the highly anticipated WEQ Western Interconnection Loading Relief Business Practice Standard, ratified in December 2025, which establishes a standardized methodology for assigning curtailment priorities and relief obligations to address transmission constraints across the Western Interconnection. Version 004.1 will also incorporate other final actions and minor corrections ratified since May 2023. These include revisions to WEQ-004 Coordinate Interchange Business Practice to add clarity regarding ramp durations, updates to WEQ Open Access-Same Time Information System (OASIS) related standards to improve the consistency and transparency of resale transactions conducted off OASIS nodes, and revisions to references to the NERC glossary terms intended to support continued coordination with NERC.

To meet the publication schedule, the WEQ subcommittees are working to complete several ongoing standards development efforts, including the development of business practices supporting DER integration and data interoperability between DER registries. The WEQ Executive Committee is anticipating voting on the recommendation during its October meeting. In addition, the WEQ will consider recommendations to standardize rounding methodologies in calculating integrated hourly values, enhancements to support cybersecurity, and to adopt standardized terms and conditions for use in contracts or addenda that support vendor vulnerability disclosure reporting and third-party software verification. The goal is to finalize and vote out a recommendation for these efforts by September for consideration by the WEQ Executive Committee in October. Any recommendations adopted by the WEQ Executive Committee this fall will be incorporated into Version 004.1 of the WEQ Business Practice Standards.

WGQ and RMQ Cybersecurity:

In May, the WGQ Electronic Delivery Mechanism (EDM) Subcommittee and RMQ Information Requirements and Technical Electronic Implementation Subcommittee (IR-TEIS) began its annual review of the Cybersecurity and Quadrant Electronic Delivery Mechanism (QEDM) related standards. To ensure that NAESB Business Practice Standards remain responsive to evolving industry needs and continue to facilitate secure electronic commercial communications, participants discussed potential vulnerabilities and areas for further consideration. Following the review, the WGQ EDM Subcommittee approved a recommendation to revise the WGQ Cybersecurity Manual (*continued*)

WGQ and RMQ Cybersecurity (continued):

to require multi-factor authentication for users accessing the customer activities website on pipeline electronic bulletin boards (EBB). The RMQ IR-TEIS determined that no revisions to the RMQ cybersecurity related standards were needed and accordingly voted out a no action recommendation. The WGQ recommendation will be presented to the WGQ Executive Committee for consideration at the September meeting and will be included in the upcoming publication of the next WGQ publication if adopted by the Executive Committee.

The WGQ EDM Subcommittee is now focusing efforts on a Standards Request proposing the addition of a new standard to the WGQ Cybersecurity Manual to address high-volume traffic affecting pipeline informational postings websites. The Request was jointly submitted by several pipelines that have experienced significant strain on their systems from excessive traffic, resulting in degraded performance, responsiveness, and availability. During the kick-off meeting in May, the WGQ EDM Subcommittee began preliminary discussions regarding potential technical measures to mitigate abnormal, high-volume activity. The Requesters noted that most of the traffic is attributed to automated data scraping, including some activity originating from foreign IP addresses. In evaluating potential mitigation measures, the subcommittee emphasized the need to protect system performance and availability without restricting access to legitimate users engaged in cross-border operations or relying on global data centers. Several potential approaches were considered, including CAPTCHA, whitelisting, and expanded use of the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI).

The subcommittee also considered potential constraints under 18 CFR 284.12(b)(3), which requires pipeline informational postings websites to remain publicly accessible. Because the regulation precludes passwords or other access controls that could impede public access to posted information, participants noted that it may be difficult to find a solution that complies with these requirements and effectively manages the increased traffic. NAESB has notified FERC staff of the operational impacts associated with increased traffic on informational postings websites, as well as the subcommittee's efforts to balance evolving security needs with applicable regulatory requirements, and FERC staff has indicated interest in potential solutions developed through industry discussions.

The EDM Subcommittee also recognized potential implications for ISOs and RTOs that rely on automated processes to retrieve data from pipeline informational postings websites for gas-electric coordination and reliability purposes. To avoid disrupting existing ISO and RTO systems, the subcommittee has coordinated with representatives from the electric industry. In early July, the Requesters met with representatives from INGAA and the ISO and RTO Council to present the approaches under consideration and identify potential operational concerns. ISO and RTO representatives have also actively participated in subsequent subcommittee discussions.

At the subcommittee's most recent meeting on July 15, 2026, ISO and RTO representatives discussed relevant operational and technical considerations and stated a general preference for measures that would not require passwords. Technical experts from the gas and electric industries will continue evaluating the approaches under consideration at the next subcommittee meeting on August 12, 2026. Additionally, they will further explore methods to improve the efficiency of data publication and retrieval and consider whether technical best practices could be developed or shared.

Distributed Energy Resources Activities:

The WEQ and RMQ Business Practices Subcommittees (BPS) continue joint efforts to consider the development of standards to support the integration of distributed energy resources (DERs). The subcommittees are currently focused on developing business practices that support DER registry interoperability by establishing a standardized framework to promote consistency and facilitate data sharing between industry tools and systems that use DER information.

The decision to move forward with standards development in this area was informed by subcommittee discussions and feedback received during an informal industry comment period, which closed in March. In February, the WEQ and RMQ BPS developed a concept proposal suggesting a two-part approach to (1) create a centralized DER Entity Registry and (2) develop new NAESB Business Practice Standards to facilitate interoperability between DER registries and other industry data tool, and solicited feedback from the industry.

The joint subcommittees received 14 sets of comments highlighting the importance of coordinating with NERC, the avoidance of duplicating functions of the NAESB Electric Industry Registry (EIR), and accounting for distribution-level communications that are needed to support DER and aggregation participation in wholesale markets. These comments reflected the perspectives of various industry participants, including NERC staff and working groups focused on the impacts of DERs on the bulk power system.

To further coordination, the WEQ and RMQ BPS chairs met with representatives from the NERC System Planning Impacts from Distributed Energy Resources Working Group (SPIDERWG) and Electric Vehicle Task Force (EVTF) to provide additional information regarding the two-part proposal. NERC representatives expressed support for the development of interoperability business practices, noting that standardized DER-related information exchanges could support data needs associated with NERC MOD-032, FERC Order No. 901, and NERC's monitoring of bulk power system reliability.

Based on this industry input and in consideration of the publication schedule for Version 004.1 of the WEQ Business Practice Standards, the WEQ and RMQ BPS decided to first focus efforts on developing standards to support the interoperability of DER registries and delay the consideration of the creation of a NAESB DER Entity Registry. To develop the business practice standards, participants are currently identifying the data elements that should be included in the standards and the categories of market participants that are most likely to use or require access to the DER related information. The subcommittees are also considering how the Common Information Model (CIM) could be mapped to the DER data elements and information currently being collected. The subcommittees agreed to develop the standards with mappings to CIM to support broader industry use and reduce software integration costs.

The next joint subcommittee meeting is scheduled for August 11, 2026, and participants will continue discussing potential data elements, CIM mapping, and potential mappings to any other applicable data models. The subcommittees are working toward finalizing a recommendation by September in time for WEQ Executive Committee consideration in the upcoming October meeting. If adopted, incorporated into Version 004.1 of the WEQ Business Practice Standards.

WEQ Cybersecurity:

NAESB remains focused on ensuring that business practice standards incorporate requirements to ensure that the commercial electronic communications within the industry are secure and reflected of existing best practices.

The WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee continues to address a joint annual plan item with the WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS) to consider developing cybersecurity related standards that would support implementation of FERC Order No. 912 and NERC Supply Chain Risk Management Reliability Standards. The joint subcommittees explored potential areas where standardization could streamline identification of relevant software vulnerabilities and help ensure that vendors provide necessary information in a consistent and useful manner. Participants determined that standardized contract language could support industry and vendor relationships by establishing faster timelines for vendor notifications regarding identified vulnerabilities and mitigation instructions during procurement. After reviewing existing industry guidance on supply chain risk management and vulnerability disclosures, the subcommittees identified areas that should be addressed as part of standardized contract language.

Currently, participants are refining detailed concepts to be incorporated into a draft contract. At the most recent joint meeting in July, discussions focused on appropriate timelines for reporting confirmed vulnerabilities and whether reporting requirements should also apply to unconfirmed vulnerabilities. Participants also considered whether to define high-risk vulnerabilities and which types of vulnerabilities, products, and services should fall within the scope of the contract. Other areas of discussion included products and services, and disclosure requirements for remediation and compensation.

Throughout these discussions, participants highlighted that any proposed language should remain consistent with the NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) requirements for supply chain cybersecurity risk management and other industry guidance regarding vulnerability and incident reporting obligations. Incorporating the concepts identified, the WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee and WEQ BPS will develop a draft contract for review at the next joint subcommittee meeting on August 14, 2026.

As a separate effort, the WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee started the annual review of the WEQ Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Business Practice Standards and the Accreditation Requirements for Authorized Certification Authorities (ACAs). This review is part of NAESB's broader annual cybersecurity review, in which the WEQ, WGQ, and RMQ proactively evaluate their cybersecurity related standards to determine whether revisions are needed in response to evolving technologies, regulatory expectations, and industry security frameworks. To identify areas that may require updates, the subcommittee reviewed developments on the NERC CIP Reliability Standards, relevant FERC directives, and increasing use of zero trust registries. Participants also discussed the potential effects of Executive Order 14412, which established deadlines for federal and critical infrastructure systems to transition to post-quantum cryptography (PQC).

At its recent meeting, the subcommittee continued discussing areas identified for review, including the potential effects of PQC on PKI standards and the obligations of relying parties to verify and validate digital certificates. Because digital certificates issued by NAESB ACAs are used to access OASIS nodes and the NAESB Electric Industry Registry (EIR) and to secure e-Tag communications, changes to the NAESB PKI standards could affect these systems and processes.

Accordingly, the WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee has coordinated with the chairs of the OASIS Subcommittee to facilitate participation by OASIS subject matter experts at the next Cybersecurity Subcommittee meeting. Their input will help inform the review before the subcommittee proceeds with changes that could affect OASIS-related cybersecurity standards or OASIS node operations. The next meeting is scheduled for August 6, 2026.

Upcoming NAESB Courses:

Each year, NAESB holds a series of webinars and courses to support gas and electric industry development. On April 16, 2026, NAESB hosted its Understanding the NAESB Wholesale Gas Quadrant (WGQ) Contracts webinar. The course provided a detailed review of the essential provisions of the NAESB Base Contract for the Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas, as well as supporting addendums related to Canadian, Mexican, Renewable Natural Gas, and Certified Gas transactions.

NAESB also held a webinar to introduce new Executive Committee members of the responsibilities of their leadership roles on July 30, 2026. The webinar provided an overview of NAESB as an organization, the NAESB standards development process, and the expectations and requirements to serve on the RMQ, WEQ, or WGQ Executive Committee.

Looking ahead, NAESB will continue to offer a variety of educational opportunities throughout the year. NAESB will hold its second Understanding the NAESB Wholesale Gas Quadrant (WGQ) Contracts webinar of the year on September 17, 2026. Interested parties may register for the webinar on the Primers and Training Courses page of the NAESB website.

Later this fall, NAESB plans to hold its annual NAESB 101 Webinar. This free course introduces attendees to NAESB and how our work supports the wholesale and retail energy markets. The webinar will provide basic information about NAESB, the standards development process, and NAESB's relationships with government agencies and other external bodies. The date and announcement for the NAESB 101 will be published on the NAESB Primers and Training Courses Page once finalized and made available.

Non-member Access/Participation: For our participants who are non-members, from the NAESB Home Page you can access one of the four quadrant squares – wholesale electric, retail electric, wholesale gas and retail gas, you are directed to the “[NAESB Non-member Access: NAESB Committees, Subcommittees and Task Forces](#)” web page. For more information, please go to [NAESB Current Committee Activities](#) or contact NAESB Staff (naesb@naesb.org) for additional information.

NAESB Ammonia Contract:

The WGQ Contracts Subcommittee is considering the development of a base contract for the sale and purchase of ammonia in response to a Standards Request submitted by the Clean Hydrogen Buyers Alliance. The Request originally proposed developing an ammonia addendum to the NAESB Base Contract for the Sale and Purchase of Hydrogen (Hydrogen Base Contract), suggesting that it could broaden use of the NAESB Hydrogen Base Contract. According to the Request, an ammonia addendum could provide a single contractual framework to capture the value of both low carbon ammonia and hydrogen, enable the transfer of carbon intensity attributes from low carbon hydrogen between ammonia producers and buyers, and support trading of an instrument equivalent to the Energy Attribute Certificates (EACs) used under the NAESB Hydrogen Base Contract.

Following discussions among stakeholder groups within the Clean Hydrogen Buyers Alliance, including those coordinated through the Ammonia Energy Association (AEA), the subcommittee determined during the kick-off meeting in March that a standalone ammonia base contract would more effectively address the distinct characteristics of ammonia transactions. In particular, the various transportation methods of ammonia and import and export considerations, suggested the need for provisions that differ from the NAESB Hydrogen Base Contract.

Incorporating core provisions and concepts of the NAESB Hydrogen Base Contract, including available transaction types, treatment of bundled and unbundled energy attribute certificates, and carbon intensity related concepts, the subcommittee developed a draft ammonia contract. The draft contract also leverages provisions from the NAESB WGQ Master Agreement for Purchase, Sale or Exchange of Liquid Hydrocarbon to address provisions specific to ammonia transactions, specifically transportation by truck, barge, rail, and ship.

At its last meeting, held on May 14, 2026, participants reviewed the Definitions section of the draft contract and identified several areas that would require additional input from the AEA and ammonia industry stakeholders. These areas include oral transaction procedures, spot price and taxes, and the definition of a firm contract in the context of force majeure. The subcommittee also added Short Ton (ST) as an additional unit of transaction quantity and made corresponding revisions to other provisions in the contract to reflect that proposed inclusion. Currently, the subcommittee is awaiting further input from the AEA on certain provisions relating to carbon intensity, identification protocols, and the AEA's newly developed ammonia certification process. Once those comments are received, the subcommittee will schedule their next meeting and continue to review the draft contract.

Following completion of the ammonia contract, the subcommittee may work on a provisional item included in the 2026 WGQ Annual Plan concerning the development of electronic datasets and other technical implementation details to support the use of the NAESB Base Contract for the Sale and Purchase of Hydrogen through distributed ledger technology (DLT). It is anticipated that work undertaken in this area could also support the implementation of the proposed ammonia base contract and the NAESB Hydrogen Base Contract. This would be consistent with the WGQ Contracts Subcommittee's prior efforts to develop DLT-related business practice standards enabling digitalized versions of the NAESB Base Contract for the Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas and supporting Renewable Natural Gas Addendum and Certified Gas Addendum.

NERC Coordination:

NAESB and NERC continue to coordinate ongoing activities to ensure that commercial business practices and reliability standards remain aligned, particularly in areas involving cybersecurity, distributed energy resources (DERs), inverter-based resources (IBRs), and emerging reliability issues.

Cybersecurity remains an active area of coordination. The WEQ Cybersecurity Subcommittee is following developments regarding NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Reliability Standards and evaluating whether those developments could affect the NAESB Public Key Infrastructure framework or other cybersecurity related requirements. The subcommittee is also developing business practices that could support industry implementation of FERC Order No. 912 Supply Chain Risk Management Reliability Standards Revisions and related NERC Reliability Standards.

Other areas of coordination include DERs. As noted in the Distributed Energy Resources Activities section of this bulletin, the WEQ and RMQ Business Practices Subcommittees are considering the development of business practice standards to support DER integration and improve interoperability between DER registries and industry data tools. NERC staff from the System Planning Impacts from Distributed Energy Resources Working Group (SPIDERWG) and Electric Vehicle Task Force (EVTf) have provided technical insight on how such standards could support MOD-032, a new mandatory NERC Reliability Standard regarding the incorporation of DER data in transmission system planning and modeling, and support NERC's efforts to monitor the reliability of the bulk power system. NERC staff has also actively participated in joint subcommittee meetings to further these coordination efforts.

In parallel, the WEQ Standards Review Subcommittee (SRS) continues to monitor several NERC projects related to the development of requirements for IBRs and DERs, particularly those supporting FERC Order No. 901, which addresses the growing impacts of IBRs on the bulk power system. The WEQ SRS also reviewed NERC project 2026-02 Computational Loads, which is intended to address emerging reliability risks from large electrical loads connecting to the bulk-power system. NERC is currently in the initial stages of developing related defined terms and reliability requirements. The WEQ SRS will continue monitoring the project to evaluate the need for complementary business practice standards or potential impacts to the WEQ Business Practice Standards.

Additionally, the WEQ SRS reviewed references to NERC, NERC Reliability Standards, and other NERC documentation throughout the WEQ Business Practice Standards to help ensure NAESB business practices align with applicable reliability requirements and identify any updates or revisions needed before publication of Version 004.1 of the WEQ Business Practice Standards later this year.

Helpful links on the NAESB Home Page:

- [NAESB Bulletin](#)
- [What's Hot](#)
- [NAESB Standards and Implementation](#)

WEQ Activities Supporting OASIS and e-Tag Transactions:

In June, the WEQ Coordinate Interchange Scheduling Subcommittee (CISS), WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS) and WEQ Open Access Same-Time Information Systems (OASIS) Subcommittee approved a recommendation proposing revisions to the WEQ-004 Coordinate Interchange Business Practice to promote greater consistency in calculating integrated hourly values. Under the existing WEQ-004 standard, integrated hourly values are calculated through a multi-step process that includes rounding fractional values to the nearest whole megawatt hour (MWh). Because the final value may vary depending on when rounding occurs and the number of decimal places retained, different calculation methods can produce discrepancies that could have a substantive effect when used in interchange scheduling.

The recommendation was developed as part of a joint annual plan item assigned with the WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee and WEQ Open Access Same-Time Information Systems (OASIS) Subcommittee, reflecting the broad use of integrated values across the wholesale electric industry. These values are referenced in multiple WEQ Business Practice Standards and are used in a variety of commercial and operational contexts, including transmission loading relief and modeling.

During its review, the WEQ CISS considered the rounding methodology that would best support standardizing calculation. After evaluating several factors, including prevalence of use, accuracy, complexity of standardization, and ease of use, the subcommittee determined that rounding on a per-e-Tag basis would be most beneficial for interchange scheduling applications and finalized a draft recommendation. Participants also considered developing a new generally applicable defined term for integrated values in WEQ-000 because integrated values are referenced in other WEQ Standards.

The draft recommendation was subsequently reviewed by the WEQ BPS and OASIS subcommittee. Both subcommittees agreed that differences in integrated value calculations in other contexts do not present the same substantive concerns as in interchange scheduling and that establishing a broadly applicable defined term could unintentionally limit the use of integrated values in other contexts. Based on this input, the WEQ CISS finalized a recommendation.

The formal comment period closed on July 8, 2026, and two sets of comments were received. The recommendation and submitted comments will be presented to the WEQ Executive Committee in October for consideration as final action. If adopted, the revisions to WEQ-004 will be included in the next version of the WEQ Business Practice Standards, scheduled for publication in December.

The WEQ CISS also voted out a no action recommendation following their annual review of the NAESB e-Tag Functional Specification, concluding that no substantive changes were needed. The subcommittee did not identify any necessary revisions to address cybersecurity protections or maintain consistency with applicable WEQ Business Practice Standards or NERC Reliability Standards. Participants identified only minor wording inconsistencies and inaccurate cross-references between sections and submitted a minor correction to address those items. The no action recommendation and the minor correction will be presented to the WEQ EC for consideration and, if adopted, included in the next version of the WEQ Business Practice Standards.

In addition to its joint work with the WEQ CISS, the WEQ OASIS Subcommittee addressed two Standards Requests proposing modifications to the WEQ-003 OASIS Data Dictionary. In May, the OASIS Subcommittee voted out a recommendation to increase the maximum allowable field length for posting pricing information on OASIS nodes from five to seven characters. The recommendation was developed in response to a Standards Request noting that transmission providers commonly post transmission rates using megawatt values but some entities post rates using gigawatt values because of the current field length limit. Increasing the field length will enable consistent use of megawatt values, reduce the risk of misinterpretation, and support greater consistency for transmission customers. The revisions also better support evolving market conditions by enabling rates to be posted using alternative units of measure that may become more prevalent as transmission providers address large loads and the integration of distributed energy resources.

The OASIS Subcommittee is also considering a Standards Request to expand the maximum field lengths for the Source and Sink data elements. Currently, source and sink point names are sometimes abbreviated or do not align with the facility common name, leading to confusion and potential misapplication. Because e-Tag and other downstream applications rely on data registered in the NAESB Electric Industry Registry (EIR), any changes to OASIS field lengths would require corresponding updates to the NAESB EIR to ensure formatting consistency and avoid continued mismatches in point names or character limits. The OASIS Subcommittee will discuss the issue of potential modifications to the NAESB EIR at the next subcommittee meeting on August 4, 2026.

As a separate effort, the OASIS Subcommittee is developing a recommendation to modify the WEQ OASIS related standards based on implementation and operational experience since the adoption of WEQ Version 004. Participants have identified non substantive revisions intended to provide greater clarity regarding redirects of transmission service and to reduce ambiguity in the application of Dynege protections and better harmonize with the NERC Reliability Standards. The subcommittee is working to finalize and approve the recommendation in time for consideration by the WEQ Executive Committee in October.

NAESB Quadrant Membership Analysis:

Wholesale Gas Quadrant (WGQ)	112
Retail Markets Quadrant (RMQ)	32
Wholesale Electric Quadrant (WEQ)	126
Total Membership	270

WGQ BPS Activities:

In March, the WGQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS) held a kick-off meeting to begin work on an assigned annual plan item to review the use of existing nominations data elements and determine whether updates to the WGQ Nominations standards are needed. The subcommittee reviewed the current implementation and its usage classification of the data elements across both electronic bulletin board (EBB) and electric data interchange (EDI) systems. Based on input provided by participants regarding current usage, the subcommittee identified several data elements for potential deprecation or reclassification and conducted additional research on elements with unknown usage.

During the most recent WGQ BPS meeting, the subcommittee completed its review of the researched elements and narrowed the list of data elements under consideration for potential deprecation. Before proposing any changes to the standards, the WGQ BPS agreed to hold an informal industry comment period to solicit broader feedback on whether the identified data elements remain in use and whether deprecating these elements could create operational or implementation concerns. The subcommittee also agreed that any data elements determined to have an incorrect usage classification should be addressed by submitting a minor correction. A Request for Informal Comments, accompanied by the list of data elements for deprecation, has been issued and is currently open through September 11, 2026.

Because changes to nominations data elements could have downstream impacts on related datasets and corresponding data elements, including those in the confirmations, scheduling, allocations, shipper imbalances, and invoicing standards, the subcommittee will evaluate those potential effects after reviewing the feedback received during the informal industry comment period.

The WGQ BPS also considered two Standards Requests. The first Request proposed adding Swing Contract, Swing Location, Swing Limit, and Swing Percentage as new data elements to the WGQ Pre-determined Allocation standards. The inclusion of these elements would allow pipelines to resolve ending daily imbalances at delivery points by swinging quantities to a storage contract, either as a swing injection or a swing withdrawal, at the time of allocation under a confirming party's operating balancing agreement (OBA). The second Request proposed adding new data elements to the invoicing and payment remittance standards to support a payee's international SWIFT banking codes, which is intended to facilitate the accurate routing of payments.

The subcommittee approved both Requests for technical review. Following a joint review from the WGQ Informational Requirements and Technical Subcommittees (IR/Tech), the WGQ BPS voted out recommendations incorporating the proposed implementation of the data elements for each Request. Both recommendations will be presented to the WGQ Executive Committee for consideration at its meeting in August.

Copyright/NAESB Standards Access:

NAESB copyrights its work products – a practice used by most standards organizations. As such, NAESB retains its rights to publication, reproduction, display, and distribution. As part of their benefits, NAESB members may obtain materials free of charge, but those benefits do not extend to their agents, affiliates or subsidiaries without prior approval and waivers from the NAESB office. Damages for copyright infringement can be significant, including fines, injunctions, the impounding of materials, the seizure of property, and awards of punitive damages. At the same time, NAESB is very liberal in its policies towards sharing information and has granted waivers to regulators and educational institutions depending on the intended use. There is also a process by which anyone can request a three-day waiver to review the work products, as they consider whether they should purchase them. Waivers for longer periods can also be granted depending on use. NAESB's control of copyrighted material provides a small revenue stream which offsets some of its standards development expenses and thus those of its members in the creation of the work products. More importantly, as entities must come to NAESB for its standards material, it assures that they will have access to the most current version.



NAESB Board and Board Committees Update:

In April, the NAESB Board of Directors held its first meeting of 2026 to review the organization's financial status, current membership trends, updates on Board Committee activities, and the Executive Committees progress on its current annual plan items. The Board of Directors welcomed Tom Coleman with Argonne National Laboratories as its guest speaker. Mr. Coleman provided an update on several programs and studies that the Laboratory has underway to facilitate gas and electric market coordination and evaluate the interdependencies of the two markets in support of reliability. He highlighted the reboot of the development of the NG Insight tool and explained how the data is being used as part of the API Project to support a single point of disruption analysis. This analysis was requested by FERC and NERC through Recommendation Seven of the Winter Storm Elliott Report and is intended to act as a post op utilizing the available data to solve for constraints that occurred during the event. Mr. Coleman also reviewed the Fuel Availability Study underway within the MISO footprint and the multi-lab project to develop the North American Energy Resilience Model (NAERM). Additionally, the Board of Directors reviewed the results of the notational ballot concerning two areas of standards development that the Strategy Committee had considered for some time.

As previously reported, the Strategy Committee has been considering how best to address a recommendation for standards development organizations, which was included in the 2024 NPC Study, Charting the Course: Reducing the GHG Emissions from the U.S. Natural Gas Supply Chain, and a request from Commissioner Chang that NAESB and the industry continue to evaluate how to improve market coordination, as noted in her concurrence to FERC's October 16, 2025 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR) proposing the adoption of the latest WGQ Business Practice Standards. *(continued)*

NAESB Board and Board Committees Update (continued):

After much deliberation and the consideration of comments from Board and Advisory Council members, which was solicited by Chair, Michael Desselle at the beginning of the year, the Strategy Committee adopted a recommendation that NAESB not take action in response to either item at this time. The Board of Directors voted on April 10, 2026 to endorse the recommendation of the Strategy Committee to delay action at this time and inform Commissioner Chang and the NPC of the decision. Communications were subsequently sent on behalf of the organization, accompanied by a record of related discussions, noting that NAESB will address these areas when the Board determines the timing is appropriate or another request is submitted for consideration.

Since the Board meeting, the Strategy Committee met on June 26, 2026 to discuss the issuance of the NAESB biennial industry wide survey. The survey was initially distributed in 2016 to support the development of the NAESB Strategic Plan, but its purpose and audience has evolved over the years. Most recently, it has been used to solicit industry wide feedback on standards development and other activities that NAESB should consider for incorporation into its annual planning process. Based on the recommendations of the members and the number of activities already underway in preparation for the next versions of standards, the committee recommended the survey be deferred for the time being.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for September 3, 2026 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at The Houstonian in Houston, Texas. The meeting will also serve as the NAESB Meeting of the Members and will offer a Strategic Session to receive guidance from attendees as the organization plans for 2027. Former NAESB General Counsel, Jay Costan, currently with Morrison, Foerster, and Dr. Ken Medlock, the Senior Director of the Center for Energy Studies at Rice University's Baker Institute, have agreed to participate as guest speakers and provide their perspectives on energy policy topics to initiate the discussions. In addition to the Meeting of the Members, the Board will continue with its usual business, including approval of the annual plans and review of the budget and membership statistics.

.....
Resources for Additional Information: The following hyperlinks provide more information on standards development efforts and other activities within NAESB.

Regulatory Orders and Reports:

[May 22, 2026 - FERC Final Rule - Standards for Business Practices of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines \(Docket No. RM96-1-044; Order No. 587-AB\)](#)

[June 10, 2026 - FERC Errata to the June 2, 2026 Sample Tariff Record issued by the Commission in connection with Order No. 587-AB \(Docket No. RM96-1-044\)](#)

NAESB Press Releases, Notices, and Correspondence:

[May 22, 2026 - Correspondence from Michael Desselle regarding FERC Order 587-AB action on Gas-Electric Coordination Standards](#)

[May 27, 2026 - Correspondence to Commissioner Chang from NAESB Chairman M.Desselle](#)

NAESB Mail Subscriptions: Registration in the NAESB e-mail information distribution system (NAESB Mail) is a benefit of membership. By electing to participate in NAESB Mail, members will receive targeted e-mail messages from the NAESB Office about relevant NAESB events, including conference-calling information, as well as important documents. What you won't receive are duplicate messages – no matter how many groups you subscribe to, when the same message is sent to multiple groups, you'll receive only one copy.