

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC CONSIDERATION OF THE	)	
IMPLEMENTATION OF NORTH AMERICAN	)	CASE NO.
ENERGY STANDARDS BOARD'S	)	2023-00272
RECOMMENDATIONS ON GAS AND ELECTRIC	)	
HARMONIZATION	)	

ORDER

The Commission initiates this administrative proceeding to consider the implementation of several recommendations of the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) concerning gas and electric harmonization that NAESB released in a report issued on July 28, 2023.<sup>1</sup> Each electric, gas local distribution company, and gas farm tap company will be asked to file comments on the NAESB Report as well as respond to the questions posed herein. The purpose of this proceeding will be to address NAESB's recommendations that require state commissions to take recommended actions and determine whether or which of the recommendations the Commission should adopt or implement.

The NAESB Report arose from the request of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) for the NAESB to co-chair a forum to address issues brought to the forefront by gas and electricity producers and generators during Winter Storm Uri in February 2021. In the

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<sup>1</sup> North American Energy Standards Board Gas Electric Harmonization Forum Report (rel. July 28, 2023) (NAESB Report). A copy is attached as an appendix to this order.

NAESB Report NAESB noted that, “[f]rom a physical and operational standpoint, the electric utility network is highly dependent upon the uninterrupted performance of the gas production and delivery network. Without the latter, the former cannot meet its own performance requirements.”<sup>2</sup> NAESB also noted that “[b]ecause both systems were not designed originally to function as an integrated whole, risk of failure is asymmetrical and not equally shared.”<sup>3</sup>

Intending to address these concerns, the NAESB ultimately released its Report containing 20 recommendations for utility, state, and federal actors. The Commission now seeks comments on the NAESB Report in general, and specific comments on the recommendations below:

- Recommendation 7: State public utility commissions and applicable state authorities in states with competitive energy markets should engage with producers, marketers and intrastate pipelines to ensure that such parties’ operations are fully functioning on a 24/7 basis in preparation for and during events in which extreme weather is forecasted to cause demand to rise sharply for both electricity and natural gas, including during weekends and holidays. (States could consider the approaches adopted in FERC regulations affecting the interstate pipelines.) In instances where state authorities lack enabling authority to take such actions, the FERC should adopt regulations to achieve identical outcomes within its authority.<sup>4</sup>
- Recommendation 10: State public utility commissions should encourage local distribution companies within their jurisdictions to structure incentives for the development of natural gas and electric demand-response programs in

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<sup>2</sup> NAESB Report at 1.

<sup>3</sup> NAESB Report at 1.

<sup>4</sup> NAESB Report at 5.

preparation for and during events in which demand is expected to rise sharply for both electricity and natural gas.<sup>5</sup>

- Recommendation 11: State public utility commissions should encourage local distribution companies within their jurisdictions to provide voluntary conservation public service announcements for residential, commercial and industrial customers in preparation for and during events in which demand is expected to rise sharply for both electricity and natural gas.<sup>6</sup>

- Recommendation 12: Joint and cross-market, long-term planning should be expanded by relevant gas and electric market parties with an increased focus on fuel adequacy. FERC should encourage this planning coordination using its oversight roles for interstate pipelines, regulated RTO/ISO interstate transmission, and Electric Reliability Organization (ERO)-related Planning Authorities and collaborate with state public utility commissions and applicable state authorities.<sup>7</sup>

- Recommendation 13: The FERC, state public utility commissions, and applicable state authorities in states with competitive energy markets should consider whether market mechanisms are adequate to ensure that jurisdictional generators have the necessary arrangements for secure firm transportation and supply service and/or storage to avoid and/or mitigate natural gas supply shortfalls during extreme cold weather events, and if not, (a) determine whether non-market solutions are warranted, including funding mechanisms borne or shared by customers and (b) if warranted, adopt such non-market solutions.<sup>8</sup>

- Recommendation 14: Applicable state authorities should consider the adoption of legislation or regulations or other actions to create a secondary market for unutilized intrastate natural gas pipeline capacity, including a requirement for intrastate pipelines to offer some minimum level of firm service and/or support bilateral agreements

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<sup>5</sup> NAESB Report at 5.

<sup>6</sup> NAESB Report at 5.

<sup>7</sup> NAESB Report at 6.

<sup>8</sup> NAESB Report at 6.

between end users. In instances where state authorities lack enabling authority to take such actions, the FERC should adopt regulations to achieve identical outcomes within its authority.<sup>9</sup>

- Recommendation 15: Applicable state authorities should consider establishing informational posting requirements for intrastate natural gas pipelines to enhance transparency for intrastate natural gas market participants regarding operational capacity data, similar to the reporting and posting requirements mandated by the FERC for interstate natural gas pipelines as part of 18 CFR §284.13. In instances where state authorities lack enabling authority to take such actions, the FERC should adopt regulations to achieve identical outcomes within its authority.<sup>10</sup>

- Recommendation 16: Applicable state authorities should consider the development of weatherization guidelines appropriate for their region/jurisdiction to support the protection and continued operation of natural gas production and processing and gathering system facilities during extreme weather events, and require public disclosure concerning weatherization efforts of jurisdictional entities.<sup>11</sup>

- Recommendation 17: Many generalized recommendations for resource adequacy and accreditation and market reforms to bolster reliability were offered throughout the NAESB GEH Forum activities; we understand, however, based upon information provided by representatives from the ISO and RTO segment, that steps are being taken within the organized markets to consider such reforms through their stakeholder processes. The GEH Forum endorses this evaluation of resource adequacy and accreditation requirements by all ISOs and RTOs and encourages the review of the Forum record.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> NAESB Report at 6.

<sup>10</sup> NAESB Report at 6.

<sup>11</sup> NAESB Report at 6.

<sup>12</sup> NAESB Report at 6.

The Commission seeks specific comments on the above recommendations particularly regarding: (1) whether existing Commission policies address or otherwise implement the recommendations; (2) whether the responding utility's current policies and practice implement the recommendations; (3) if the recommendations are not implemented, whether implementing the Commission should implement some or all of the recommendations; and (4) for each recommendation, whether, and which, statutory or regulatory changes, or both, would be necessary to implement that recommendation.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds that this proceeding should be opened and a procedural schedule established for the consideration of the recommendations made in the NAESB Report.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. This proceeding is established to develop a record upon which the Commission can consider the implementation of the recommendations made in the NAESB Report.

2. Each electric, gas local distribution company, and gas farm tap company is requested to file comments on the NAESB Report as well as respond to the questions raised above.

3. Any interested party may file comments.

4. Comments and responses shall be filed with the Commission within 90 days of the date of service of this Order.

5. A copy of this Order shall be served upon each electric, gas local distribution company, gas farm tap company, and the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Office of Rate Intervention.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

  
Chairman

  
Vice Chairman

  
Commissioner



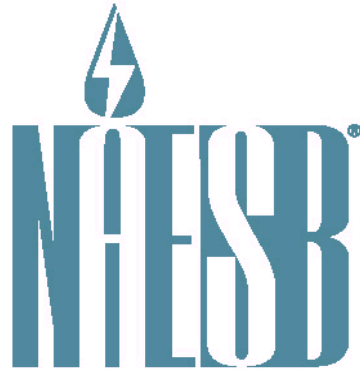
ATTEST:

  
Executive Director

APPENDIX

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2023-00272 DATED AUG 25 2023

EIGHTY PAGES TO FOLLOW



**North American Energy Standards Board**  
**Gas Electric Harmonization Forum Report**  
**July 28, 2023**





## **North American Energy Standards Board**

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William P. Boswell, *General Counsel*

## **NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization Forum**

Robert Gee, *Chair*  
Dr. Sue Tierney, *Chair*  
Pat Wood, III, *Chair*

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The participants of the NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization Forum comprise a broad cross section of natural gas and electric markets – state and federal regulators, pipelines, generators, producers, distribution, marketing, transmission, end users, independent system operators and technology experts. Any interested party was welcome to participate in the NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization Forum.

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please contact the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) by  
email ([naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)) or phone (713) 356-0060.



# North American Energy Standards Board

1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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## **I. Foreword from the Chairs of the NAESB GEH Forum**

*The following represents the views exclusively of the Chairs of this Forum in their individual capacities, and should not be attributed to the North American Energy Standards Board, its leadership, or its members.*

### **“HOUSTON, WE HAVE A PROBLEM.”**

**-- Astronaut Jack Swigert to Mission Control at the Johnson Space Center in Houston in reporting that Apollo 13 had experienced a near catastrophic explosion on the spacecraft. (April 19, 1970)**

Paraphrasing Astronaut Jack Swigert, and with the same sense of understated urgency, we believe our country has a problem.

Over the last century, two great industries have arisen – electricity networks and natural gas production and delivery – and together have become an absolutely critical foundation for our dependence upon an uninterrupted supply of reliable, safe, and affordable energy. We simply cannot keep the lights on or heat our buildings if both systems do not operate synchronously.

At one time, it was believed that the United States was on the verge of depleting most of its proven reserves of natural gas, so much so that its use for power generation was federally restricted by law in 1978. This sentiment persisted for three decades, with the US Secretary of Energy even attesting in 2006 that “using natural gas to generate electricity is like washing your dishes in fine scotch.”

However, today the electricity industry’s need for and reliance on natural gas is vastly different. Owing to historic breakthroughs in turbine technology, seismic imagery for exploration, and horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing, domestic natural gas supply has grown exponentially, along with the power sector’s reliance on it. In the last two decades, natural gas’ fuel share for power generation has doubled: today it represents almost 40 percent of total resources. Both sectors of the American energy system have become highly interdependent economically and technically: natural gas represents the largest fuel resource for power generation, while power generation is the largest consumer of natural gas.

From a physical and operational standpoint, the electric utility network is highly dependent upon the uninterrupted performance of the gas production and delivery network. Without the latter, the former cannot meet its own performance requirements. Customers of both gas and electricity systems can suffer when this happens, as demonstrated by the natural gas sector’s failure to perform for power generation during the most recent two winters (2021’s Winter Storm Uri and 2022’s Winter Storm Elliott). Because both systems were not designed originally to function as an integrated whole, risk of failure is asymmetrical and not equally shared. During Uri, gas needed for power generation vanished during periods of peak winter demand for both gas and electricity, tragically resulting in excess of 240 lives lost and economic damage estimated as high as \$130 billion. Although some producers suffered from not being able to sell their production, because shortages caused natural gas spot prices to skyrocket, gas purchasers – primarily electric generators and gas utilities – were handed bills in the magnitude of a thousand times greater than customary, resulting in financial insolvency or ratepayer subsidization for decades to come. During Elliott, gas accounted for 72 percent of outages attributable to fuel.

We were asked to co-chair this forum, and we assumed our responsibilities with an open mind, weighing seriously the questions directed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC). We endeavored to find solutions to address the systemic weaknesses now made evident in the natural gas/electric network nexus. We listened to stakeholders. We used our experience in regulating both industries, and our knowledge of how they interact. This eventually resulted in our setting forth 20 Proposed Recommendations that we solicited for comment, followed by a vote of the Forum participants to gauge support. All of these Recommendations involve technical issues; some involve policy considerations. Some involved short-term solutions; others will require longer to remedy.



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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After having reviewed the voting on the 20 Recommendations, we draw the following conclusions contrasting and comparing the perspectives of the natural gas and electric industries on the critical path forward:

- Several of our recommendations received strong support from both industry sectors, such as:
  - **Recommendation 8** (alignment of the timelines between the Power Day and/or the day-ahead scheduling timelines with the gas day) – high 80 percent support.
  - **Recommendation 9** (adoption of multiday unit commitment processes) – 90 percent support.
  - **Recommendation 10** (state PUCs encouragement of natural gas and electricity demand response programs) – 90 percent support.
  - **Recommendation 11** (state PUCs encouragement of voluntary conservation public service announcements) – 90 percent support.
  
- However, on many critical recommendations, the natural gas and electric industries hold widely divergent opinions:
  - **Recommendation 1** (FERC’s directing NAESB to revise its business practice standards related to the timely reporting of natural gas pipeline informational website posting data) – 85 percent support by electric wholesale, versus 46 percent support by gas wholesale.
  - **Recommendation 3** (expanding the Argonne National Laboratory NGInsight tool to improve situational awareness and communication between (a) owners and operators of natural gas production and processing facilities and (b) Bulk Electric System operators) -- 80 percent support by electric wholesale, versus 57 percent support by gas wholesale.
  - **Recommendation 7** (encouraging State public utility commissions and applicable state authorities in states with competitive energy markets to engage with producers, marketers and intrastate pipelines to ensure that such parties’ operations are fully functioning on a 24/7 basis in preparation for and during events in which extreme weather is forecasted) -- 87 percent support by electric wholesale, versus 41 percent support by gas wholesale.
  - **Recommendation 15** (encouraging state authorities to consider establishing informational posting requirements for intrastate natural gas pipelines regarding operational capacity data, similar to the reporting and posting requirements mandated by the FERC for interstate natural gas pipelines) – 91 percent support by electric wholesale, versus 57.5 percent support by gas wholesale.
  - **Recommendation 16** (encouraging state authorities to consider the development of weatherization guidelines appropriate for their region/jurisdiction) – 92 percent support by electric wholesale, versus 55 percent support by gas wholesale.

As much as we are heartened by the strong support for some recommendations, the divergence of support between the two sectors on others is profoundly disturbing: it reflects a fundamental lack of agreement regarding the lessons learned from these past two winters and the challenges ahead in ensuring that outages no longer occur owing to a failure between these two systems.

At the time we closed our live Forum meetings, we urged stakeholders to take control of their destiny as failure to do so could result ultimately in less favorable outcomes dictated by others in the event that we experience another weather event with deadly and far-reaching consequences. We did not regard any of our 20 recommendations to be so burdensome or so profoundly altering that they would engender strong opposition. Rather, a close reading demonstrates that they were couched in terms of simply requesting entities such as federal or state authorities to consider taking remedial steps. Yet they still drew stout opposition from some.

Specifically, activity on the pending NAESB standards development request to consider modifications to the *force majeure* language of the NAESB Base Contract to encourage weatherization actions underscores the difficulty in relying on consensual solutions. This standards request, made on May 3, 2023, was singled out as significant in our **Recommendation 4** where we stated the following: “The NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization (GEH) Forum endorses this evaluation and encourages the NAESB Wholesale Gas Quadrant to act with utmost expediency to address this request on a timely basis.” This recommendation was supported by 91 percent of the Wholesale Electric



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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Quadrant, but only by 51 percent in the Wholesale Gas Quadrant. Some commenters opined that it was inappropriate for the GEH Forum to even mention this pending standards modification matter in our recommendations.

Just this week, at the kick-off meeting for the Wholesale Gas Quadrant to consider this standards modification request, gas producers unanimously urged summary dismissal of this request, effectively negating further consideration and discussion. This is illustrative of the difficulty of relying on a voluntary, consensual process to find solutions for the issues we endeavored to address. We regard an act like this to be both disappointing and counterproductive.

The last serious endeavor to address the failure to harmonize or coordinate the relationship between these two industries occurred in 2012 following a winter storm outage in 2011. At that time, FERC was asked to take curative steps to synchronize the electric and gas markets. Except for modest changes, it declined to do so. The consequences of that decision continue to linger in the face of the crises that emerged these past two winters.

Excuses can no longer substitute for sound planning and judgment. If voluntary measures fall short owing to staunch opposition by some, it is time for the national regulator to consider more direct measures to ensure that both industries under its purview perform in tandem to ensure energy reliability and assurance for our country. Through our workshops, market participants worked with us to address the discrete issues identified by NERC and FERC. Twenty recommendations that follow were identified because we thought them achievable most readily either through a consensual process or through federal or state regulatory action, without need for legislative recourse. However, the sharp differences in opinion between the electric and gas sectors expressed in response to those recommendations, and the discord experienced during the opening discussion of **Recommendation 4** in the standards setting process, have prompted our rethinking of that more limited course. We have thus pivoted to a measure that, although discussed during the Forum but not included among our recommendations, requires Congressional enactment, recognizing that this represents an even more challenging pathway.

After a year of work through this process, combined with our own extensive experience, we recommend a more significant, structural solution that, if enacted, would accelerate the harmonization of the natural gas and electric power industries to the benefit of the country: **a natural gas reliability organization akin to the one currently responsible for electric reliability, NERC**. We know that others – including the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine’s Committee on the Future of Electric Power in the U.S. (2021) – have concluded that the close interdependencies of the gas and electric industries and their importance to the nation’s economy necessitate stronger reliability standards in the gas industry, along the lines of those that Congress determined (in 2005) were needed in the electric industry. With such an organization in place, we believe the balanced solutions discussed in this report would find home at an institutional forum empowered to more timely address these and other related matters on an ongoing basis. Pending its creation, however, the following GEH recommendations should be expeditiously addressed on an individual basis, as set forth below. Although our work on this project is completed, resolution of these issues is only beginning.

We indeed have a problem, and it’s time to get it fixed.

Robert W. Gee

Dr. Susan Tierney

Pat Wood, III



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

## **II. Executive Summary & Recommendations**

The North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) has a long history of convening energy industry participants to collaborate on measures that can be taken to improve coordination between the natural gas and electric markets. Since its transition from the Gas Industry Standards Board (GISB) to NAESB in 2002, the organization has been actively developing standards intended to improve the efficiency and reliability of the interactions between the two markets. These endeavors have become more critical over the last twenty years as reliance on natural gas as a fuel source for electric generation has intensified and the interdependencies of the two markets have continued to grow. As part of its latest efforts, NAESB reconvened its Gas Electric Harmonization (GEH) Forum to address the July 29, 2022 request<sup>1</sup> of Richard Glick, Chairman of the FERC, and Jim Robb, President of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), to establish a forum to address the activities described in Key Recommendation 7 of the FERC, NERC, and Regional Entity Staff Report on the February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (November 2021 Report).<sup>2</sup> Specifically, Key Recommendation 7 purposed that the forum “identify concrete actions (consistent with forum participants’ jurisdiction) to improve the reliability of the natural gas infrastructure system necessary to support the Bulk Electric System.” Specific topic areas for consideration by the forum were provided through the November 2021 Report and were further defined by FERC and NERC staff at the onset of the effort; however, FERC and NERC staff encouraged the forum to explore other areas and actions that could be taken to achieve the goals articulated in the report.

This report describes the activities of the NAESB GEH Forum from August 30, 2022 to July 20, 2023 to respond to the request and provides twenty recommendations for action that the industry, the FERC, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), state public utility commissions, and/or applicable state authorities, and the U.S. Department of Energy (DoE) could take to address the recurring challenges stemming from natural gas-electric infrastructure interdependency. The virtual meetings held by the NAESB GEH Forum to develop the recommendations were open to the public and included the participation of seven-hundred and forty-one individuals representing more than three-hundred and seventy companies from all segments of the wholesale and retail natural gas and electric markets. Additionally, those that were unable to attend the virtual meetings, were given an opportunity to provide comments for consideration by GEH Forum participants through several open comment periods, which resulted in the submission of one-hundred and forty-five sets of comments from sixty-eight different entities.

As with all NAESB activities, a full and transparent record has been created that should aid the parties identified in the recommendations to initiate actions as they evaluate any next steps. Although a process was not established to define consensus positions of the GEH Forum, each recommendation included in this report was distributed for vote to the GEH Forum participants and all votes have been tallied utilizing the Balanced Voting Procedure developed under the NAESB American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited consensus-based process, which ensures that all interests are equally balanced across market sectors.<sup>3</sup> Ideally, utilizing NAESB’s Balanced Voting Procedure will provide the reader with a deeper understanding of the various industry segments perspectives regarding the action proposed in each recommendation and illustrate the industry’s overall support or opposition to a particular recommendation, as represented through the GEH Forum.

The following twenty recommendations were formulated through an evaluation of the GEH Forum record, encompassing the written and oral comments that were offered during and between the fourteen meetings held by NAESB over the last eleven months. A summary of the record supporting each recommendation and the above described voting results of the GEH Forum participants can be found in Section V of this report.

***Recommendation 1:*** The FERC should direct NAESB to revise its business practice standards related to the timely reporting of natural gas pipeline informational website posting data (such as operationally available capacity, total scheduled quantity, and any other data necessary to assist regional operators in maintaining system reliability) to

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<sup>1</sup> July 29, 2022 - Joint FERC-NERC Letter to NAESB: [https://naesb.org/pdf4/FERC\\_NERC\\_Letter\\_072922\\_to\\_NAESB.pdf](https://naesb.org/pdf4/FERC_NERC_Letter_072922_to_NAESB.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> November 16, 2021 - FERC, NERC, and Regional Entity Staff Report - The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States: [https://naesb.org/pdf4/ferc\\_nerc\\_regional\\_entity\\_staff\\_report\\_Feb2021\\_cold\\_weather\\_outages\\_111621.pdf](https://naesb.org/pdf4/ferc_nerc_regional_entity_staff_report_Feb2021_cold_weather_outages_111621.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> A description of the NAESB quadrants and segments and the NAESB balanced voting procedure can be found through the following hyperlink: [https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/geh\\_balanced\\_voting\\_quadrant\\_segment\\_descriptions.doc](https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/geh_balanced_voting_quadrant_segment_descriptions.doc)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
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Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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enable the data and any subsequent amendments to become routinely accessible to Bulk Electric System operators as soon as such data are reported and available.

**Recommendation 2:** The FERC should take steps to facilitate the expansion of the Argonne National Laboratory NGInsight tool, with funding from a federal governmental agency, such as the Department of Energy, to improve situational awareness and communication between the natural gas pipeline system and Bulk Electric System operators. Access to and use of this tool should include appropriate security protocols and market protections.

**Recommendation 3:** The FERC should take steps to facilitate the expansion of the Argonne National Laboratory NGInsight tool, with funding from a federal governmental agency, such as the Department of Energy, to improve situational awareness and communication between owners and operators of natural gas production and processing facilities and Bulk Electric System operators. Such communication could include aggregated volume data or confirmed scheduled quantities for key upstream receipt points. Access to and use of the tool should include appropriate security protocols and market protections.

**Recommendation 4:** On May 3, 2023, a request for standards development was submitted to NAESB to consider modifications to the force majeure language of the NAESB Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas to, among other things, encourage weatherization actions. The NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization (GEH) Forum endorses this evaluation and encourages the NAESB Wholesale Gas Quadrant to act with utmost expediency to address this request on a timely basis.

**Recommendation 5:** The FERC should direct the natural gas and electric industries to find ways to encourage more frequent use of capacity release or asset management arrangements (AMAs) and more timely release of unutilized interstate pipeline capacity that does not impact the reliability of the firm capacity holder. Further, the FERC should direct NAESB to revise its business practice standards to standardize the necessary transactional informational posting, timeliness and transparency requirements for these capacity releases.

**Recommendation 6:** The FERC should consider policy modifications necessary to better facilitate advanced agreements between end users and remove barriers to the release of capacity, similar to those adopted as part of FERC Order No. 712 (to support the use of asset management agreements).

**Recommendation 7:** State public utility commissions and applicable state authorities in states with competitive energy markets should engage with producers, marketers and intrastate pipelines to ensure that such parties' operations are fully functioning on a 24/7 basis in preparation for and during events in which extreme weather is forecasted to cause demand to rise sharply for both electricity and natural gas, including during weekends and holidays. (States could consider the approaches adopted in FERC regulations affecting the interstate pipelines.) In instances where state authorities lack enabling authority to take such actions, the FERC should adopt regulations to achieve identical outcomes within its authority.

**Recommendation 8:** The FERC should direct Independent System Operators (ISOs) and Regional Transmission Organizations (RTOs) or electric transmission owners/operators, where no ISO or RTO exists, to conduct and report to FERC the results of analyses of actions that better align the timelines of the Power Day and/or the day-ahead scheduling timelines with the gas day, including earlier notification of successful bids, to ensure that schedules are known and made available to allow natural gas-fired generators to procure natural gas and pipeline capacity in periods when the market is most liquid.

**Recommendation 9:** If not already under consideration through stakeholder processes, ISOs and RTOs or the FERC should conduct proceedings and adopt multiday unit commitment processes to better enable the industry to prepare for and provide reliable service during events in which weather is forecasted to cause demand to rise sharply for both electricity and natural gas.

**Recommendation 10:** State public utility commissions should encourage local distribution companies within their jurisdictions to structure incentives for the development of natural gas and electric demand-response programs in preparation for and during events in which demand is expected to rise sharply for both electricity and natural gas.

**Recommendation 11:** State public utility commissions should encourage local distribution companies within their jurisdictions to provide voluntary conservation public service announcements for residential, commercial and industrial customers in preparation for and during events in which demand is expected to rise sharply for both electricity and natural gas.





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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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**Recommendation 12:** Joint and cross-market, long-term planning should be expanded by relevant gas and electric market parties with an increased focus on fuel adequacy. FERC should encourage this planning coordination using its oversight roles for interstate pipelines, regulated RTO/ISO interstate transmission, and Electric Reliability Organization (ERO)-related Planning Authorities and collaborate with state public utility commissions and applicable state authorities.

**Recommendation 13:** The FERC, state public utility commissions, and applicable state authorities in states with competitive energy markets should consider whether market mechanisms are adequate to ensure that jurisdictional generators have the necessary arrangements for secure firm transportation and supply service and/or storage to avoid and/or mitigate natural gas supply shortfalls during extreme cold weather events, and if not, (a) determine whether non-market solutions are warranted, including funding mechanisms borne or shared by customers and (b) if warranted, adopt such non-market solutions.

**Recommendation 14:** Applicable state authorities should consider the adoption of legislation or regulations or other actions to create a secondary market for unutilized intrastate natural gas pipeline capacity, including a requirement for intrastate pipelines to offer some minimum level of firm service and/or support bilateral agreements between end users. In instances where state authorities lack enabling authority to take such actions, the FERC should adopt regulations to achieve identical outcomes within its authority.

**Recommendation 15:** Applicable state authorities should consider establishing informational posting requirements for intrastate natural gas pipelines to enhance transparency for intrastate natural gas market participants regarding operational capacity data, similar to the reporting and posting requirements mandated by the FERC for interstate natural gas pipelines as part of 18 CFR §284.13. In instances where state authorities lack enabling authority to take such actions, the FERC should adopt regulations to achieve identical outcomes within its authority.

**Recommendation 16:** Applicable state authorities should consider the development of weatherization guidelines appropriate for their region/jurisdiction to support the protection and continued operation of natural gas production and processing and gathering system facilities during extreme weather events, and require public disclosure concerning weatherization efforts of jurisdictional entities.

**Recommendation 17:** Many generalized recommendations for resource adequacy and accreditation and market reforms to bolster reliability were offered throughout the NAESB GEH Forum activities; we understand, however, based upon information provided by representatives from the ISO and RTO segment, that steps are being taken within the organized markets to consider such reforms through their stakeholder processes. The GEH Forum endorses this evaluation of resource adequacy and accreditation requirements by all ISOs and RTOs and encourages the review of the Forum record.

**Recommendation 18:** FERC and NARUC should collaborate to conduct, fund, and/or direct efforts to study whether market-incentivized investments in strategic natural gas storage facilities are sufficient to address natural gas supply shortfalls during extreme cold weather events, and if the level of investment is sufficient to preserve such facilities for use during extreme cold weather events. The study should also explore whether public sources of funding are needed for investment to secure sufficient storage.

**Recommendation 19:** FERC and NARUC should collaborate to conduct, fund, and/or direct efforts to study whether additional financial incentives for the natural gas infrastructure system, including infrastructure to provide additional firm transportation capacity, would help to address natural gas supply shortfalls during such events, and further support the Bulk Electric System's performance during extreme cold weather events.

**Recommendation 20:** The U.S. Department of Energy or FERC should conduct, fund, and/or direct efforts to study, by region, whether there is adequate natural gas infrastructure in place to support new gas usage patterns affected by flexible gas generation resource requirements as the latter resources are increasingly called upon for more frequent and/or steeper ramping to balance the increased use of variable energy resources. This study should be conducted in conjunction with an industry advisory group made up of diverse interests to ensure broad engagement and support for study results that are credible and unbiased. Currently, there are no comprehensive regional assessments that examine whether regions have sufficient natural gas infrastructure to support new usage patterns of gas generators, yet this information is essential for policymakers to have so that they can make informed policy decisions and take steps to avoid any potential reliability and resilience risks that accompany the transition to a lower emissions energy future.



# North American Energy Standards Board

1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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### **III. Background & NAESB GEH Forum Activities**

NAESB is an ANSI accredited, non-profit 501(c)(6) corporation formed with the support of the U.S. DoE for the purpose of developing voluntary business practice standards designed to promote more competitive and efficient natural gas and electric markets. The organization's history of successful standards development has been made possible with the strong support of the DoE, FERC, NERC, NARUC, and state utility commissions, among many other governmental agencies at both the federal and state level. NAESB has developed over four thousand business practice standards through its process and maintains a membership of over three hundred corporations representing the wholesale gas, wholesale electric, retail gas and retail electric markets. Work products developed by the industry include business practices, interpretations, transactional information requirements, data layouts, schemas, and standardized contracts, all of which are adopted through the NAESB process and supported through the maintenance of related industry tools and certification programs. With very few exceptions, all NAESB wholesale market standards have been adopted by the FERC and mandated as federal regulation for federally jurisdictional entities through the incorporation by reference process, and many of the NAESB retail market standards have served as a basis for regulations adopted by various state commissions.

Activities to support improved coordination between the gas and electric markets began almost immediately after GISB transitioned to NAESB with a 2003 directive from FERC Chairman Wood to work to resolve the timeline differences between the gas and electric markets, particularly with respect to intraday gas nominations. In response, NAESB went through the process of soliciting proposals to address the issue and, similarly to the present effort, discussed a wide range of solutions from simply coordinating industry terms and definitions to creating an Energy Day by combining the two markets. At the end of the process, NAESB adopted its first set of standards coordinated between the natural gas and electric markets requiring jurisdictional pipelines and gas-fired generators to establish protocols for communicating operational information and requiring balancing authorities and regional coordinators to receive operational flow orders and other critical notices from pipelines. These standards were adopted by the FERC in June of 2007 through FERC Order No. 698, and subsequent NAESB standards to support improved market coordination have been adopted by the FERC through FERC Order Nos. 587-U and 809.

NAESB has also undertaken efforts to consider identified market coordination issues that did not result in the adoption of standards. In 2011, following the National Petroleum Council's publication of the *Prudent Development Report: Realizing the Potential of North America's Abundant Natural Gas and Oil Resources* study,<sup>4</sup> the NAESB Board of Directors initiated an effort to respond to recommendations included in the study, including "...developing policies, regulations, and standardized business practices that improve the coordinated operations of the two industries and reduce barriers that hamper the operation of a well-functioning market standards." While the organization did not pursue standards in response to the study, NAESB did produce a report that identified areas where standards could be developed if specific policy issues were resolved by regulators. Subsequently, through FERC Order No. 809 issued in April 2015, the FERC requested that the industry work through NAESB to "...explore the potential for faster, computerized scheduling when shippers and confirming parties all submit electronic nominations and confirmations, including a streamlined confirmation process if necessary," in an effort to provide greater scheduling flexibility. NAESB initiated activities to consider the request, and although draft standards were developed that proposed standards related to confirmation methods and special services, the NAESB membership was unable to come to consensus on adoption. Additionally, in 2022, NAESB considered the development of standards in response to an industry submitted request proposing the "development of standards to support coordinated commercial practices between the natural gas and electric markets during impending extreme weather-related emergency operating conditions." NAESB held a series of joint meetings between natural gas and electric market participants with a focus on cross-market education before a determination was made to not continue with the development of standards.

These experiences over the last twenty years, as well as NAESB's membership consisting of both natural gas and electric market companies, makes the organization well qualified to address cross-market issues and support coordination in the energy industry.

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<sup>4</sup> The Executive Summary of the National Petroleum Council study can be found through the following hyperlink: <https://www.npc.org/NARD-ExecSummVol.pdf>



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

## FERC & NERC Request

As noted, on July 29, 2022, FERC Chairman Glick and Mr. Robb sent a letter to the Chairman of the NAESB Board of Directors, Michael Desselle and NAESB Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, Jonathan Booe, encouraging NAESB to take steps to “expeditiously convene” the forum identified in Key Recommendation 7 of the November 2021 Report. In the letter, Chairman Glick and Mr. Robb stated that NAESB is uniquely positioned to facilitate the forum contemplated by the November 21 Report and specifically cited NAESB’s ANSI-accredited, consensus-based process and history of convening participants from all segments of the supply chain to address difficult coordination issues and formulate solutions that result in more efficient and effective markets.

As described in the November 2021 Report, the creation of a forum was purposed to facilitate collaboration among electric and natural gas market participants and applicable regulatory bodies to provide a venue, “...in which representatives of state legislatures and/or regulators with jurisdiction over natural gas infrastructure, in cooperation with FERC, NERC and the Regional Entities (which collectively oversee the reliability of the Bulk Electric System), and with input from the Balancing Authorities (which are responsible for balancing load and available generation) and natural gas infrastructure entities, [can] identify concrete actions (consistent with the forum participants’ jurisdiction) to improve the reliability of the natural gas infrastructure system necessary to support the Bulk Electric System.” Key Recommendation 7 highlighted thirteen specific topics the forum should consider, but noted that other topics of the forum’s choosing which “...address the natural gas-electric infrastructure interdependency problem...” could be considered. To support the organizational efforts of the forum, members of FERC and NERC staffs that participated on the team to draft the November 2021 Report, provided a presentation to the NAESB GEH Forum participants that overviewed key findings from the November 2021 Report regarding the events that led to the outages during Winter Storm Uri, the effect on the natural gas system, and the causes of electric generation shortfalls. As part of the presentation, FERC staff and NERC staff overviewed the topics identified for the forum to address as part of Key Recommendation 7 and requested the forum also consider topics from Key Recommendation 24 as well as encouraged the NAESB GEH Forum to consider other topics that may be determined relevant through the course of the GEH Forum process.

As identified by FERC staff and NERC staff, the discussion topics fell into one of three categories: (1) measures to improve gas-electric information sharing for improved system performance during extreme cold weather emergencies; (2) measures to improve reliability of natural gas facilities during cold weather with examples such as freeze protection and protection of the electric supply; and (3) measures to improve the ability of generators to obtain fuel during extreme cold weather events when natural gas heating load and natural gas-fired generators are both in high demand for natural gas, at the same time that natural gas production may have decreased. FERC staff and NERC staff indicated that the goal of the forum should be to identify concrete actions, including the parties responsible for taking the action, that will improve the reliability of the natural gas infrastructure system necessary to support bulk-power system reliability and to develop plans for implementing those actions with associated deadlines.

## NAESB Process & GEH Forum Record Development

On August 1, 2022, Mr. Desselle and Mr. Booe provided correspondence<sup>5</sup> to FERC Chairman Glick and Mr. Robb to inform them that NAESB had initiated actions to address the request and would coordinate with FERC staff, NERC staff, and NARUC regarding forum activities. Mr. Desselle took action to reconvene the NAESB GEH Forum, originally created in March 2014 to respond to the FERC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR) on *Coordination of the Scheduling Processes of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines and Public Utilities*, which, among other things, gave the industry an opportunity to work through NAESB to develop a consensus based alternative to the proposed revisions offered through the NOPR to the operating day and scheduling practices used by interstate pipelines to schedule natural gas transportation service. In preparation for the meeting, NAESB asked Advisory Council members Robert Gee, a former Assistant Secretary at the DoE, a former Chairman of the Public Utility Commission of Texas, and former Chair of the NARUC Electricity Committee, Dr. Susan Tierney, a former Assistant Secretary at the DoE and former Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, and Pat Wood, III, a former Chairman of the FERC and the Public Utility Commission of Texas to serve as GEH Forum Chairs. All three graciously accepted the role and have served as the leadership team throughout this process.

<sup>5</sup> August 1, 2022 – NAESB Correspondence to FERC and NERC:  
[https://naesb.org/pdf4/naesb\\_correspondence\\_to\\_FERC\\_NERC\\_080122.pdf](https://naesb.org/pdf4/naesb_correspondence_to_FERC_NERC_080122.pdf)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
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While the GEH Forum was not tasked with the development of standards, NAESB utilized its ANSI-accredited process to facilitate the meetings which were held virtually using the Zoom platform. Participation in the meetings was open to any interested party, regardless of NAESB membership status. As with all NAESB efforts, a full and transparent record has been created that includes meeting recordings and meeting chats provided through the Zoom platform, staff meeting notes, work papers, agendas, voting records, and all comments submitted as part of the GEH Forum process spanning from August 30, 2022 to July 20, 2023. To provide ample opportunity for the consideration of all viewpoints and develop a record, prior to and following each meeting, interested parties were given an opportunity to submit written comments and to respond to a series of surveys intended to solicit feedback on specific topics based on the meeting agenda. In submitting comments or survey responses, each participant was asked to identify his or her company affiliation as well as make a market/segment or non-voting observer designation consistent with the NAESB membership structure. All comments and survey submissions have been made public and are compiled and posted for each relevant meeting. The record also includes an initial work plan,<sup>6</sup> a schedule of meetings,<sup>7</sup> the GEH Forum distribution list,<sup>8</sup> and a reference and educational materials document<sup>9</sup> that provides access to all presentations or educational materials GEH Forum participants submitted as part of the process.

In the two instances in which votes were requested of the GEH Forum participants, NAESB utilized its Balanced Voting Procedure which not only provides an opportunity to view market positions at a more granular level but also safeguards against undue influence by active market segments and protects minority interests. Per the voting procedure, votes are taken on a per company basis and each respondent must identify with an appropriate NAESB quadrant and segment, or as an observer. Each company may only cast one vote in the quadrant and segment in which they participate; however, companies that participate in multiple market segments (i.e. multiple NAESB quadrants and segments), such as a vertically integrated organizations, may cast multiple votes as long as each individual from the company is representing a different market segment. All NAESB segments are allotted two votes in total that are weighted proportionally by the total number of votes in support or opposition across a single segment.

## NAESB GEH Forum Meetings

In total, fourteen meetings of the GEH Forum were held between August 2022 and July 2023. As a result of the significant interest in the GEH Forum meetings, many of which had nearly two-hundred registrants, those wishing to participate were encouraged to submit written comments prior to the meetings. Attendees that provided written comments ahead of the meeting were given the opportunity to explain, elaborate or supplement any written submitted comments, and attendees that did not provide written comments were given an opportunity to provide oral comments when time allowed. Additionally, in order to maximize the opportunities for attendees to interact with one another and help further facilitate meeting discussions, the Zoom platform chat function was enabled for all meetings beginning with the one held on September 23, 2022. The chat log for each meeting included in the record identifies both the commenter and the comment with a timestamp. In addition to making recordings of each meeting available, NAESB staff provided a set of staff notes that summarized the meeting discussions. All artifacts from the GEH Forum meetings have been posted and are provided in the Meeting Appendix to this report. Included below is a brief summary of each of the GEH Forum meetings.

August 30, 2022: To initiate the effort, remarks were provided by FERC Chairman Glick, Mr. Robb and Greg White, Executive Director of NARUC, noting the importance of the industry's response to the call to action and encouraging collaboration and creativity from the participants. FERC and NERC staff provided the presentation previously described to set the context for the topic areas identified in the November 2021 Report and NAESB leadership discussed the steps that would be taken to develop a response to the request. Following the meeting, on September 7, 2022, NAESB made available a GEH Forum Work Plan.

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<sup>6</sup> The NAESB GEH Forum Work Plan can be viewed through the following hyperlink:

[https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh\\_work\\_plan.docx](https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh_work_plan.docx)

<sup>7</sup> The NAESB GEH Forum Schedule of Meetings can be found through the following hyperlink:

[https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh\\_schedule.docx](https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh_schedule.docx)

<sup>8</sup> The NAESB GEH Forum Distribution List identifies every individual who requested to receive announcements, agendas, and other distributions over the course of the process and can be found through the following hyperlink:

[https://naesb.org/pdf4/naesb\\_geh\\_forum\\_distlist\\_2022.doc](https://naesb.org/pdf4/naesb_geh_forum_distlist_2022.doc)

<sup>9</sup> The NAESB GEH Reference and Educational Documentation List can be found through the following hyperlink:

[https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh\\_reference\\_documentation\\_list.docx](https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh_reference_documentation_list.docx)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
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September 23, 2022: During the meeting, the participants reviewed comments submitted in response to the September 7, 2022 survey concerning several measures to improve the ability of generators to obtain fuel during extreme cold weather events as well as discussed whether requirements for firm supply and/or transportation or dual fuel capability should be established and how emergency actions are/could be taken to give critical electric generating units pipeline transportation priority.

October 21, 2022: During the meeting, the participants continued discussions concerning the comments submitted in response to the previous survey and reviewed the comments submitted in response to the October 3, 2022 survey. The October 3, 2022 survey asked respondents to provide input on how to synchronize the electric and natural gas market timelines, how information sharing could be improved and whether there are any practical solutions for access to existing pipeline capacity during times when demand is high.

November 8, 2022: During the meeting, the participants began reviewing the comments submitted in response to the October 24, 2022 survey concerning the barriers to the expansion of natural gas infrastructure, the state of current cross-market information sharing, existing forecasting processes, how costs associated with reliability enhancements could be addressed, the nomination and confirmation process during holidays and weekends, and the policy or contractual terms that present issues with pipeline capacity during situations of unanticipated demand.

December 5, 2022: During the meeting, participants continued discussions on the survey topics reviewed during the previous meeting.

January 12, 2023: In preparation for the meeting, the Chairs of the GEH Forum developed a work paper that contained an overview of the background and progress of the efforts and a high-level description of the categories of recommendations and proposals that had been offered by forum participants to date. During the meeting, Chairs reviewed the document with the participants and noted that GEH Forum meeting participants had provided over three-hundred recommendations or proposals through written comments, meeting discussions, and the meeting chats that could be categorized into one of ten general topics: (1) electric market design; (2) gas market design; (3) information sharing; (4) infrastructure; (5) intrastate gas market; (6) Jones Act waivers; (7) improved planning; (8) service prioritization; (9) resiliency requirements; and (10) weatherization. During the meeting, in addition to reviewing the Chairs' work paper, Craig Glazer, Vice President-Federal Government Policy of PJM Interconnections, provided a presentation regarding the impacts of Winter Storm Elliott within the PJM footprint, which had occurred just weeks before the meeting.

February 2, 2023: Prior to the meeting, the NAESB office distributed a work paper that provided a summary of over one-hundred proposals and recommendations that had been offered through the process and categorized them within the framework provided by FERC staff and NERC staff at the onset of the process. A survey was distributed on January 31, 2023 requesting comments on the work paper and if there were additional proposals or recommendations that should be considered by the GEH Forum. During the meeting, the participants reviewed the work paper and discussed the comments submitted in response to the survey.

March 3, 2023: On February 8, 2023 a survey, based upon the work paper reviewed during the previous meeting, was distributed to the GEH Forum participants. The intent of this survey was to solicit preliminary feedback and gauge initial interest from the industry regarding the proposals and recommendations summarized in the work paper prepared for the prior meeting. Specifically, the survey asked respondents to indicate their support or opposition for considering action on each of the one-hundred and twelve proposals and recommendations identified through the process, to rank the proposals and recommendations in each category based on the priority they should be given, and provide comments on action that could be taken in support of their top three items within each category. The results of the survey were tabulated utilizing the NAESB Balanced Voting Procedure and made available the week of the meeting on February 27, 2023. During the meeting, the results were reviewed by the Chairs, and the participants were provided an opportunity to offer additional comments regarding the survey and survey responses. The Chairs thanked the participants for their responses and quick turnaround of the survey and noted that the results would inform the areas that the GEH Forum should further explore.

April 4, 2023: During the meeting, the participants reviewed comments submitted in response to the March 15, 2023 survey and discussed the Key Recommendation 7 topic areas that had been identified by FERC staff and NERC staff as measures to improve gas-electric information sharing for improved system performance during extreme cold weather emergencies.



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
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April 27, 2023: During the meeting, the participants reviewed comments submitted in response to the April 6, 2023 survey and discussed the Key Recommendation 7 topic areas that had been identified by FERC staff and NERC staff as measures to improve reliability of natural gas facilities during cold weather (freeze protection, electric supply).

May 17, 2023: During the meeting, the participants reviewed comments submitted in response to the April 28, 2023 survey and discussed the Key Recommendation 7 topic areas that had been identified by FERC staff and NERC staff as measures to improve the ability of generators to obtain fuel during extreme cold weather events when natural gas heating load and natural gas-fired generators are both in high demand for natural gas, at the same time that natural gas production may have decreased.

June 16, 2023: Prior to the meeting, on June 9, 2023, the NAESB office distributed the NAESB GEH Forum Chairs' Strawman Recommendations Work Paper. The work paper identified nineteen potential recommendations for action based on the GEH Forum record. The work paper included a summary of the record on twenty-six topic areas that were compiled at the request of the Chairs to assist in the consideration of potential recommendations to provide to the GEH Forum participants for discussion. The recommendations in the work paper were formulated by the Chairs after review of the record and resulted from significant discussion prior to the meeting. During the meeting, the participants discussed recommendations four through eleven. The Chairs encouraged participants to submit written comments prior to the next meeting on the recommendations.

June 29, 2023: During the meeting, a presentation was made by Argonne National Laboratory regarding the NGinsight tool, and the participants discussed each of the remaining recommendations in the NAESB GEH Forum Chairs' Strawman Recommendations Work Paper as well as the comments received prior to the meeting. The Chairs, once again, encouraged the participants to submit written comments that they would consider prior to finalizing the recommendations that would be distributed for consideration and vote by the GEH Forum participants after the last scheduled meeting.

July 13, 2023: During the final GEH Forum meeting, NAESB staff reviewed the NAESB Balanced Voting Procedures and the process by which it would be used to conduct a vote on the finalized GEH Forum recommendations, noting that all individuals that participated in a GEH Forum meeting were eligible to vote, consistent with the NAESB Balanced Voting Procedure. A voting period was opened following the meeting via the Mometric platform and closed at 5:00 pm Central on July 20, 2023.

#### **IV. FERC & NERC Staff Report Key Recommendations 7 & 24 Identified Topics**

As part of the November 2021 Report, Key Recommendations 7 identified thirteen different topics to serve as a basis for discussion in the forum. FERC staff and NERC staff requested the GEH Forum also consider four areas included as part of Key Recommendation 24 and encouraged the forum to explore any additional issues or considerations that may arise as part of the process. A number of the topics identified by FERC staff and NERC staff have resulted in recommendations included in this report. The following summaries note some of the discussion that took place regarding the identified areas; however, the GEH Forum record can be reviewed to obtain more detailed information. The GEH Forum meetings held on April 4, 2023, April 27, 2023, and May 17, 2023 were specifically dedicated to reviewing the following topics.

##### **Measures to Improve Gas-Electric Information-Sharing for Improved System Performance during Extreme Cold Weather Emergencies**

*Whether and how natural gas information could be aggregated on a regional basis for sharing with Bulk Electric System operators in preparation for and during events in which demand is expected to rise sharply for both electricity and natural gas, including whether creation of a voluntary natural gas coordinator would be feasible*

As identified in Key Recommendation 7, the GEH Forum discussed natural gas system operational information sharing as well as the creation of a voluntary natural gas coordinator. There were a number of proposals in these areas offered throughout the process, including several that identified the potential roles and responsibilities of a voluntary natural gas coordinator. Some of the proposals suggested that a coordinating entity could better facilitate the aggregation and dissemination of operational information for natural gas pipelines<sup>10</sup> or operate as a regional

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<sup>10</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 14, MISO and Pages 27 – 28, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

clearinghouse to assimilate and assess data needed to maintain reliable natural gas and Bulk Electric System operations.<sup>11</sup> Other participants suggested more substantive roles, including an organization to coordinate industry development of voluntary minimum reliability objectives and performance expectations for the natural gas system<sup>12</sup> or perform functions for the natural gas market similar to those undertaken by ISOs and RTOs.<sup>13</sup> However, it was noted that differences in the structure of the natural gas and electric market may limit the feasibility of either of these types of roles for a voluntary natural gas coordinator<sup>14</sup> and could be duplicative of existing programs and regulatory requirements.<sup>15</sup> Additionally, as identified by GEH Forum participants, establishing a regional or national voluntary natural gas coordinator will likely require state and/or federal regulatory or legislative action<sup>16</sup> and guidance from policymakers may help inform future discussions.<sup>17</sup> While a specific recommendation in this area was not endorsed as part of the process, the report includes recommendations for action to streamline processes for aggregating natural gas operational information and improve the situational awareness of the natural gas system for Bulk Electric System operators.

*Expanding/revising natural gas demand response/interruptible customer programs to better coordinate the increasing frequency of coinciding electric and natural gas peak load demands and better inform natural gas consumers about real-time pricing*

The GEH Forum discussed the use of natural gas demand response and interruptible customer programs as a means to better coordinate the increasing frequency of coinciding electric and natural gas peak load demands, and several related proposals were made by GEH Forum participants. It was recognized that there are a number of natural gas utilities that offer interruptible customer programs<sup>18</sup> but that safety considerations and the time and resource requirements to restart the flow of gas may limit the number of end users that can participate.<sup>19</sup> Additionally, participants suggested that while there are third-party platforms that provide daily pricing indexes,<sup>20</sup> greater transparency regarding price formation may increase participation in natural gas demand response programs or facilitate more voluntary reductions in supply usage by end users during critical events,<sup>21</sup> and proposals suggested evaluation of the development of intraday or hourly Gas Day reporting requirements in this area.<sup>22</sup> While a recommendation related to this specific topic was not endorsed as part of the process, the report includes recommendations for action to incentivize natural gas demand response programs and promote voluntary conservation during times in which there is high demand for both natural gas and electricity.

*Electric and natural gas industry interdependencies (communications, contracts, constraints, scheduling)*

Participants identified a number of considerations related to market interdependencies, many of which focused on how to promote greater coordination between the electric and natural gas industry to prepare for critical events in which demand for both electricity and natural gas are expected to sharply rise, several of which resulted in recommendations for action. There were several of proposals that identified actions to improve the ability to obtain natural gas during critical events, especially those occurring over holidays and weekends. It was noted that regulators and industry have established a number of mandatory rules and regulations as well as voluntary standards and processes that support coordination in this area but that there may be opportunities to evaluate if modifications or changes to these rules, regulations, and practices can increase natural gas market liquidity and more closely align natural gas and electric market scheduling practices to better enable the procurement of natural gas by generators. Additionally, many participants stated the importance of robust communication protocols to ensure the availability of natural gas and

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<sup>11</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Pages 59 – 60, NGSA)

<sup>12</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 63, MISO)

<sup>13</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Pages 67 – 68, SPP)

<sup>14</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 61, AGA and Page 68, New England LDC Group)

<sup>15</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 28, AGA and Pages 29 – 30, NGSA)

<sup>16</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 61, NGSA and Page 61, AGA)

<sup>17</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Pages 67 – 68, SPP)

<sup>18</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 45, APGA)

<sup>19</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 41, New England LDC Group and Page 45, APGA)

<sup>20</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 80, NGSA)

<sup>21</sup> December 5, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 2, SoCalGas) and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 39, PJM)

<sup>22</sup> December 5, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 2, SoCalGas) and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 39, PJM)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
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electric system information that is needed both prior to and during critical events to help ensure reliability and made proposals intended to improve upon the accessibility and accuracy of data, including several that addressed a more collaborative load forecasting process. While a specific recommendation on collaborative load casting is not included, the report contains recommendations for action related scheduling practices, contracts, and other coordination processes.

## Measures to improve reliability of natural gas facilities during cold weather (freeze protection, electric supply)

*Additional state actions (including possibly establishing an organization to set standards, as NERC does for Bulk Electric System entities) to enhance the reliability of intrastate natural gas pipelines and other intrastate natural gas facilities*

In discussing the topics identified in Key Recommendation 7, the forum considered if there are state actions that could enhance the reliability of intrastate natural gas pipelines and other intrastate natural gas facilities, including the development natural gas reliability standards. While there were proposals in this area, a related recommendation for action was not endorsed as part of the process. Participants explained that standards can provide greater consistency across markets<sup>23</sup> and may be helpful to address areas with gaps in regulatory jurisdiction.<sup>24</sup> Some participants suggested the development of natural gas reliability standards in a manner similar to the process used by NERC<sup>25</sup> if standards development cannot be facilitated by an existing standards development organization,<sup>26</sup> but it was noted congressional or state legislative and/or regulatory action may be a prerequisite to establishing an organization that could develop national or regional standards<sup>27</sup> and there should first be a determination as to if standards in this area would be beneficial.<sup>28</sup> While a specific recommendation regarding the development of natural gas reliability standards was not included as part of the recommendations offered in this report, the forum record includes the potential benefits and cautions identified by GEH Forum participants, and there are several recommendations for action endorsed by the GEH Forum intended to enhance the reliability of intrastate natural gas pipelines and other intrastate natural gas facilities.

## *Programs to encourage and provide compensation opportunities for natural gas infrastructure facility winterization*

During the forum process, participants discussed mechanisms and programs that could encourage and provide compensation opportunities for natural gas facility weatherization and made several proposals in this area, including the development of weatherization guidance for natural gas production and processing and gathering system facilities. While participants noted that regulatory requirements in this area could impact investments in new infrastructure and that owners and operators of upstream facilities are economically motivated to ensure their facilities can perform,<sup>29</sup> others advocated for mandatory requirements that will help to ensure a reliable natural gas supply during critical weather events.<sup>30</sup> The report includes recommendations for related action in this area by state authorities as well as market mechanisms that can provide incentives for weatherization.

## *Methods to streamline the process for, and eliminate barriers to, identifying, protecting, and prioritizing critical natural gas infrastructure load*

GEH forum participants discussed and evaluated proposals to streamline the process for identifying, protecting, and prioritizing critical natural gas infrastructure. While the creation of national or regional guidance in this area was discussed, a related recommendation was not endorsed through the process. Participants stated that there are many existing rules and regulations that specify various criteria for identifying critical natural gas load designations,<sup>31</sup> such as those developed by the Railroad Commission of Texas, and noted that any evaluation of existing procedures to

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<sup>23</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 7, SPP)

<sup>24</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Pages 3 – 4, MISO)

<sup>25</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 2, AEP and Pages 6 – 7, Xcel Energy)

<sup>26</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 4, Gas & Oil Association of West Virginia and Page 8, Ohio Oil and Gas Association)

<sup>27</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 3, AGA)

<sup>28</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 3, MISO)

<sup>29</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 18, NGSA)

<sup>30</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 24, AGA)

<sup>31</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 31, NGSA) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Pages 33 – 35, INGAA)





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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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determine if there is an opportunity to establish greater consistency between the various jurisdictional requirements should account for regional factors or market differences that impact considerations in this area.<sup>32</sup> Additionally, participants stated that any effort to streamline related processes should not interfere with private contracting rights and ensure that disclosures regarding critical infrastructure do not create security risks.<sup>33</sup> While the record may be helpful in explaining some of the benefits and cautions identified by participants when establishing rules for prioritizing natural gas infrastructure, no specific action in the area was recommended.

Measures to improve the ability of generators to obtain fuel during extreme cold weather events when natural gas heating load and natural gas-fired generators are both in high demand for natural gas, at the same time that natural gas production may have decreased

*Which entity has authority to require certain natural gas-fired generating units to obtain either firm supply and/or transportation or dual fuel capability, under what circumstances such requirements would be cost-effective, and how such requirements could be structured, including associated compensation mechanisms, whether additional infrastructure buildout would be needed, and the consumer cost impacts of such a buildout*

The GEH Forum process included discussions regarding firm supply and/or transportation or dual fuel capability requirements. While a specific proposal was not endorsed, some participants recommended establishing mandatory requirements. It was noted that differences in market structure and stakeholder needs could make decision-making processes by regulators and bulk electric system operators challenging<sup>34</sup> and that the practicality and effectiveness of mandatory requirements is dependent upon the existence of sufficient infrastructure to supply and transport fuel as well as the availability of cost-recovery mechanisms for generators.<sup>35</sup> While the forum process did not result in recommendations identifying specific cost-effective scenarios, the record contains considerations identified by GEH Forum participants in this area, and the report includes related recommendations regarding compensation mechanisms to incent firm services.

*Possible options to increase regasification of liquid natural gas, including possible Jones Act waivers*

Participants discussed ways to increase regasification of liquefied natural gas (LNG), among other requests related to the fuel source. These discussions included the use of Jones Act waivers but did not result in any recommended actions. Jones Act waivers are reviewed by the Department of Homeland Security, and the department has established a process to expeditiously review waiver requests which includes consulting with the Department of Energy regarding any energy related requests.<sup>36</sup> Proposals were made to consider the use of blanket waivers<sup>37</sup> but current laws prevent pre-authorization of such requests, and participants noted that there may be infrastructure,<sup>38</sup> supply acquisition,<sup>39</sup> and gas quality<sup>40</sup> considerations to regasification of LNG that prevent wider usage. While the forum record may be useful to explain the benefits and concerns noted by participants, there were no specific recommendations for action in this area.

*Which entity has authority, and under what circumstances, to take emergency actions to give critical generators pipeline transportation priority second only to residential heating load, during cold weather events when natural gas supply and transportation is limited but demand is high*

In evaluating Key Recommendation 7, GEH Forum participants discussed natural gas transportation priority for critical generation resources during specific emergency situations, and proposals for the creation of regional or national guidance in this area were considered; however, a specific recommendation for action was not articulated

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<sup>32</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 31, NGSA) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Pages 37 – 38, Texas Pipeline Association)

<sup>33</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 31, NGSA) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Pages 37 – 38, Texas Pipeline Association)

<sup>34</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 8, PJM and Pages 9 – 10, MISO)

<sup>35</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Pages 1 – 3, NGSA and Pages 3 – 4, AEP)

<sup>36</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 (Page 20, NGSA) (quoting Granholm, Jennifer. The Secretary of Energy. August 18, 2022. Letter to the Honorable Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.)

<sup>37</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 38, Evergy)

<sup>38</sup> April 27, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 6, Kinder Morgan, Intrastate Pipeline Group)

<sup>39</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 38, New England LDC Group)

<sup>40</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 36, AGA; Page 37, INGAA; Page 38, New England LDC Group)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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through the GEH Forum process. Participants noted that in states where procedures to reallocate capacity have been established,<sup>41</sup> prior to invoking such actions, applicable authorities should determine that the reallocation of capacity will not further stress or constrain the natural gas transportation system,<sup>42</sup> and use discretion in the decision-making process as the ultimate end use of natural gas may not be easily ascertained.<sup>43</sup> Additionally, participants noted that existing federal regulatory rules and policies may limit the applicability of this concept for interstate natural gas pipeline capacity.<sup>44</sup> A recommendation for action was not endorsed as part of the process, but the record may be helpful to identify the considerations and concerns articulated by the industry in this area.

*Whether resource accreditation requirements for certain natural gas generating units should factor in the firmness of a unit's gas commodity and transportation arrangements as well as the potential for correlated outages for units served by the same pipeline(s)*

During the GEH Forum process, several participants indicated that there are ongoing efforts by industry to consider new and modified resource accreditation requirements, some of which include consideration of the availability and reliability of a natural gas-fired generation's fuel supply. Participants noted that while there may be broadly applicable considerations to determine if changes to resource accreditation requirements should be evaluated, the identification of specific solutions to strengthen reliability will be dependent upon a number of factors, some of which may be unique to a given region or market, like underlying infrastructure framework and the applicability of state regulatory requirements.<sup>45</sup> The report includes a recommendation of support for ongoing ISO and RTO stakeholder processes to consider reforms to resource accreditation requirements.

*Whether there are barriers to the use of dual fuel capability that could be addressed by changes in state or federal rules or regulations as well as considering the use of other resources which could help mitigate the risk of loss of natural gas fuel supply*

GEH Forum participants considered if actions by state or federal regulators could remove barriers that may be inhibiting the use of dual fuel capabilities and if there are other resources that may help to mitigate the risk natural gas fuel supply loss. While no specific recommendations resulted from these discussions, participants did identify some considerations that may factor into the decision-making process for the use of dual fuel, including emission rules and regulations and the ability of a generator to recover costs associated with acquiring a secondary fuel source. It was noted that ensuring compensation mechanisms properly incentivize dual fuel could encourage wider usage, if desired,<sup>46</sup> and that actions to streamline the process for obtaining emission limit waivers during critical events could enable quicker deployment of such resources.<sup>47</sup> Participants also suggested that regular testing of fuel-switching capabilities can help to detect any operational or mechanical issues and ensure the resource is prepared to perform during critical events.<sup>48</sup> Additionally, it was stated that some generators may have access to other types of resources, such as electric storage, that can inject electricity onto the grid during high load periods and serve a similar function as generators with dual fuel.<sup>49</sup> A review of the GEH Forum record could be helpful in determining if further considerations in this area would be beneficial for reliability.

*Increasing access to/utilization of market-area and behind-the-city-gate natural gas storage*

In discussing Key Recommendation 7, the GEH Forum evaluated how the industry currently uses natural gas storage and ways to increase access and utilization, including the creation of strategically located storage facilities. Several proposals in this area were discussed but related recommendations were not endorsed through the process. Participants noted that during Winter Storm Elliott, some regions of the country were able to successfully use storage resources to meet demand<sup>50</sup> and that there are some jurisdictions, such as Texas, that have created market services to incentivize to the use of natural gas storage and/or obtain and reserve storage to maintain reliability in the event of fuel supply

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<sup>41</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 30, AGA and Page 34, INGAA)

<sup>42</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 30, Xcel Energy and Pages 33 – 34, INGAA)

<sup>43</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 29, NGSA)

<sup>44</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 30, Xcel Energy and Pages 33 – 34, INGAA)

<sup>45</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 43, SPP)

<sup>46</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 54, Evergy)

<sup>47</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 51, NGSA; Page 53, PJM; and Page 54, Evergy)

<sup>48</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 51, NGSA and Page 52, NYISO)

<sup>49</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Pages 23 and 56, SPP)

<sup>50</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 14, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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disruptions.<sup>51</sup> Participants explained that effective use of natural gas storage is typically dependent on the availability of sufficient capacity to transport the fuel<sup>52</sup> and that while greater access to storage for generators located behind-the-city-gate may be particularly helpful,<sup>53</sup> local distribution companies are often heavily reliant upon these types of facilities, and participants cautioned that any actions to incentivize storage use by generators should ensure that the ability of other resources to access storage facilities is not diminished.<sup>54</sup> No specific action in this area was recommended, but a review of the record can explain the considerations identified by participants regarding expansion of natural gas storage.

## *Whether or how to increase the number of “peak-shaver” gas-fired generating units that have on-site LNG storage*

GEH Forum participants discussed the expansion of on-site LNG storage for natural gas-fired generators, and several proposals were made but no recommendation for action was endorsed through the process. Participants stated that on-site LNG storage may not be a practical solution for the majority of natural-gas fired generators<sup>55</sup> except for in a few regions of the country, such as New England.<sup>56</sup> It was recommended that before pursuing on-site LNG, a case-by-case analysis be carried out to confirm that this is the most cost-effective proposal to ensure reliability.<sup>57</sup> While no specific actions in this area are recommended, the record may provide insight into the factors identified by participants to consider as part of any related decision making process.

## Recommendations for Further Study

As requested by FERC staff and NERC staff, the GEH Forum discussed Recommendation 24 which identifies four potential areas of study by federal and state entities with jurisdiction over natural gas infrastructure, and several recommendations in this area were endorsed by the GEH Forum. Two of the identified areas included in the recommendations for study developed as a part of the GEH Forum process address evaluation of the use of (1) market-incentivized investments in strategic natural gas storage facilities and (2) additional financial incentives for natural gas infrastructure to address natural gas supply shortfalls during critical events. Additionally, a third identified area in Recommendation 24, the use of market or public funding for generators to have firm transportation and supply and invest in storage contracts is the subject of a recommendation for action endorsed by the GEH Forum. Discussion on the fourth area, possible options for increased regasification of liquid natural gas, is referenced in section III.C.2 of this report and included as part of the record. The GEH Forum also endorsed a recommendation for study based on participant proposals to evaluate regional needs regarding regional evaluations of whether there is adequate natural gas infrastructure in place to support new gas usage patterns.

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<sup>51</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 60, TPA)

<sup>52</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 57, AEP)

<sup>53</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 61, NGSA)

<sup>54</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 61, AGA)

<sup>55</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 24, NGSA)

<sup>56</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 24, NGSA and Page 25, PJM)

<sup>57</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 25, PJM and Page 26, MISO)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

## **V. NAESB GEH Forum Recommendations & Voting Results**

The following twenty recommendations purpose specific actions that can be undertaken to address challenges presented by the increasingly interdependent nature of the natural gas and electric market and lead to enhanced market coordination. The recommendations were voted on during a one-week voting period opened to all participants in the GEH Forum process following the final GEH Forum meeting on July 13, 2023 and have been tallied utilizing the NAESB Balanced Voting Procedure<sup>58</sup> to show the support or opposition to the purposed action by market and market segment. Although a process for determining consensus by the industry on each recommendation was not defined by the GEH Forum, the purpose of tallying the votes in this manner is to provide the parties responsible for considering the actions described in the recommendations with insight into the perspectives of the industry through the lens of the balanced, consensus-based process utilized by NAESB to adopt its standards. A summary of the rationale for the recommendations taken from the record and identified by the Chairs of the GEH Forum, along with tables illustrating the aggregated votes, can be found following each recommendation. While participants in the GEH Forum nearly universally agreed that actions to improve coordination and mitigate the reliability risks should be undertaken expeditiously by the industry and specific implementations, priorities and deadlines for the actions described in the recommendations were offered and discussed during the GEH Forum process, it was determined that decisions regarding timing and balancing of interests are best left to the parties responsible for taking the actions described in the recommendations. In addition to the full record of all GEH Forum activities, including the meeting recordings, meeting chat, presentations, work papers and written comments cited throughout the report, a full voting record of all votes cast and supplemental comments concerning the votes submitted by interested parties are provided as an appendix to this report.

***Recommendation 1:*** *The FERC should direct NAESB to revise its business practice standards related to the timely reporting of natural gas pipeline informational website posting data (such as operationally available capacity, total scheduled quantity, and any other data necessary to assist regional operators in maintaining system reliability) to enable the data and any subsequent amendments to become routinely accessible to Bulk Electric System operators as soon as such data are reported and available.*

The GEH Forum participants engaged in considerable discussions regarding how information sharing between the natural gas and electric markets could be improved upon, including changes to information sharing practices. Under FERC regulations in 18 C.F.R § 284.13, interstate natural gas pipelines are required, in an equal and timely manner, to provide certain transactional and operational information via informational posting websites, such as the availability of capacity on the mainline, at receipt and delivery points, and in storage fields as well as the amount of natural gas scheduled at each point and pipeline segment.<sup>59</sup> This information must also be made available in downloadable file formats and, per 18 C.F.R § 284.12, these postings must conform with the NAESB WGQ Business Practice Standards.<sup>60</sup> However, a number of GEH Forum participants noted that quicker access to this data could enhance situational awareness and provide greater understanding of natural gas systems, better informing processes of electric system operators to ensure reliability, especially during critical events.<sup>61</sup> There was substantial support from both electric and natural gas participants to explore ways to streamline and add efficiencies to the reporting, posting, and data sharing processes of natural gas pipelines.<sup>62</sup>

GEH Forum participants stated that improvements to the speed, depth, and quality of data included in informational postings by interstate natural gas pipelines, could help to provide near-real time information, expanding visibility

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<sup>58</sup> A description of the NAESB quadrants and segments and the NAESB balanced voting procedure can be found through the following hyperlink: [https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/geh\\_balanced\\_voting\\_quadrant\\_segment\\_descriptions.doc](https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/geh_balanced_voting_quadrant_segment_descriptions.doc)

<sup>59</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 14, INGAA); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 2 – 3 and 18, INGAA)

<sup>60</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 2 – 3 and 18, INGAA)

<sup>61</sup> See February 27, 2023 GEH Forum Survey, Recommendation 1.c.24; GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 23, LS Power); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 14 – 15, LS Power); November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 6, SPP); GEH Forum Survey Responses for March 3, 2023 (Page 123, Electric Power Supply Association); Updated GEH Forum Survey Response – March 31, 2023 (Page 21, 44 Farris); April 4, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 2, AGA and Page 3, 44 Farris)

<sup>62</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 47, Recommendation 1.c.24)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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regarding scheduled capacity and increasing overall transparency of the operational status of natural gas pipelines.<sup>63</sup> While it was explained that natural gas pipelines are obligated to publicly post information such as operationally available capacity, maintenance activities, and critical notices as soon as such information becomes available,<sup>64</sup> some participants noted that there are inconsistencies when comparing the detail and availability of data.<sup>65</sup> For instance, GEH Forum participants stated that there can be differences in both the formatting and timing of postings by natural gas pipelines<sup>66</sup> and suggested that more detailed, standardized information could give natural gas market participants a better understanding of possible system constraints, leading to more informed decision making by natural gas end users.<sup>67</sup>

Several ISOs and RTOs participating in the GEH Forum noted the importance of a wide-area view of natural gas system operations to help ensure reliability and the value of being able to access timely data to assist in operational planning, particularly during critical events or anticipated critical events.<sup>68</sup> This type of information sharing is supported by FERC Order No. 787 that permits the communication between certain parties of operational information to support reliability of natural gas and electric systems as well as the NAESB WEQ and WGQ Business Practice Standards, incorporated by reference as part of 18 C.F.R § 38.1(a) and 18 C.F.R § 284.12, respectively, that require written operational communication procedures between natural gas pipelines and balancing authorities/reliability coordinators during critical events.<sup>69</sup> While some ISOs and RTOs have been able to establish regional coordination processes that result in relatively quick information exchanges regarding relevant natural gas operations data,<sup>70</sup> other ISOs and RTOs stated that there are challenges in accessing and analyzing such information.<sup>71</sup> The lack of consistency and variances in data availability, as noted by some participants, can cause delays for ISOs and RTOs in interpreting the impact of natural gas system changes on electric reliability and often necessitates additional action by the ISO or RTO to obtain further information.<sup>72</sup> Depending on the number of natural gas pipelines within an ISO's or RTO's footprint, this outreach can require significant time resources.<sup>73</sup> A suggestion was made that additional transparency requirements could help create greater consistency and uniformity in the timing and availability of data provided by natural gas pipelines.<sup>74</sup> Participants explained that more timely, relevant information can increase the speed of decision making processes by system operators, noting that greater detail in and timeliness of informational postings would be of particular benefit.<sup>75</sup> Additionally, as proposed by GEH Forum participants, streamlining informational postings could provide for easier assimilation of natural gas data and better facilitate the development of automatable data exchanges that simultaneously access and process data from multiple natural gas pipelines, increasing overall efficiency.<sup>76</sup>

Beyond streamlining informational postings, it was noted that being able to identify, in real-time, available natural gas pipeline capacity, especially during critical events, would be beneficial. A suggestion was made that if interstate natural gas pipelines release actual flow data, this could provide real-time information regarding capacity availability,

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<sup>63</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 (Page 24, Process Gas Consumers Group, Industrial Energy Consumers of America, and American Forest and Paper Association); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 17, PGC & AF&PA); GEH Forum Survey Responses – February 2, 2023 (Page 13, TCPA); GEH Forum Survey Response Comment Submission – February 27, 2023 (Page 94, Southern Company)

<sup>64</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses for November 8, 2022 (INGAA, Page 14)

<sup>65</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 15, SPP)

<sup>66</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 89, New England LDC Group)

<sup>67</sup> GEH Forum Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 123, Electric Power Supply Association)

<sup>68</sup> November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 7, PJM, MISO, SPP & NYISO)

<sup>69</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 13, INGAA)

<sup>70</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 15 – 16, CAISO); November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 8, CAISO); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 10 – 11, ISONE)

<sup>71</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 13 – 14, MISO; Page 15, SPP)

<sup>72</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 13 – 14, MISO; Page 15, SPP)

<sup>73</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 13 – 14, MISO; Pages 15 – 17, SPP)

<sup>74</sup> November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 6, SPP)

<sup>75</sup> GEH Forum Survey Response Comment Submission – February 27, 2023 (Page 4 and Page 314, Southern Company)

<sup>76</sup> December 5, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 2, Eversource Energy); GEH Forum Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 3, 27-28, and 44 Farris); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 13 – 14, MISO; Pages 15 – 17, SPP)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

increase transparency, and facilitate greater intraday coordination between LDCs and the electric market.<sup>77</sup> Others stated that actual flow data can be considered commercially sensitive and that as such information is not necessarily reflective of operationally available capacity, any potential benefits may be disproportionate to cost.<sup>78</sup> Participants noted that commercially sensitive data would need to be anonymized and aggregated prior to release and that while actual flow data can be used to calculate the difference between the quantity of flowing gas and a natural gas pipeline’s design capacity, this value is only indicative of if there is available capacity at a given receipt or delivery point.<sup>79</sup> It was explained that the amount of actual operationally available capacity may differ for reasons such as contractual commitments to provide no-notice service and manage line pack or system pressure.<sup>80</sup> Additionally, as noted in comments provided as part of the GEH Forum record, the modifications needed to provide actual flow data to third parties, including the deployment of cybersecurity upgrades across the natural gas pipeline network, would likely require a significant investment by interstate natural gas pipelines and that such costs may not be justified using a cost-benefit analysis.<sup>81</sup>

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH recommended that coordination by the natural gas and electric industries, through NAESB, to facilitate the development of business practices that support the timing of informational website posting data required by FERC will improve reliability through greater insights into natural gas system operations as well as better enable the development of industry tools that can further improve situational awareness.

<b>NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 1</b>						
<b>Quadrant and Segment</b>	<b>Response Total</b>		<b>Response Balanced</b>		<b>Balanced Percentage</b>	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>						
Producers	4	1	1.6	0.4	80%	20%
Pipelines	1	19	0.1	1.9	5%	95%
Local Distribution Companies	5	5	1	1	50%	50%
End Users	5	5	1	1	50%	50%
Services	3	4	0.86	1.14	43%	57%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>4.56</b>	<b>5.44</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>54%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>						
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	9	3	1.5	0.5	75%	25%
Marketers/Brokers	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	3	1	1.5	0.5	75%	25%
End Users	1	1	1	1	50%	50%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	6	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%

<sup>77</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 23, LS Power); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 14 – 15, LS Power)

<sup>78</sup> GEH Forum Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 114, NGSA) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 18 – 19, INGAA)

<sup>79</sup> GEH Forum Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 114, NGSA) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 18 – 19, INGAA)

<sup>80</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 18 – 19, INGAA)

<sup>81</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 18 – 19, INGAA)



# North American Energy Standards Board

1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

<b>Total:</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	0	6	0	2	0%	100%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Total:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>87.5%</b>	<b>12.5%</b>



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Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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***Recommendation 2:*** *The FERC should take steps to facilitate the expansion of the Argonne National Laboratory NGInsight tool, with funding from a federal governmental agency, such as the Department of Energy, to improve situational awareness and communication between the natural gas pipeline system and Bulk Electric System operators. Access to and use of this tool should include appropriate security protocols and market protections.*

As requested in the November 2021 Report, the GEH Forum discussed how natural gas system information could be aggregated for sharing with Bulk Electric System operators in preparation for and during critical events, including the feasibility of establishing a voluntary natural gas coordinator to assist in these efforts. Many different roles and functionalities for a voluntary natural gas coordinator were discussed by GEH Forum participants, such as data compilation via a clearinghouse funded by ISOs and RTOs to aggregate and assess relevant operational information on a regional basis.<sup>82</sup> Others proposed a more substantial role for a natural gas coordinator, including the creation of an organization, potentially structured like NERC prior to becoming the Electric Reliability Organization, that could facilitate the development of voluntary practices and operational protocols to support natural gas system reliability<sup>83</sup> or an entity that could function similar to ISOs and RTOs and coordinate natural gas system planning and reliability on a regional basis.<sup>84</sup> Some GEH Forum participants expressed opposition, explaining that a voluntary natural gas coordinator may create an unnecessary burden and increase the cost of service without providing sufficient benefits.<sup>85</sup> Additionally, it was noted that if a more substantive role were envisioned, a singular entity would currently lack jurisdiction to take meaningful actions and providing such authority would be complex, likely requiring input and decisions from a multitude of state legislative bodies and regulatory authorities.<sup>86</sup> Although there was not a clear consensus regarding the creation and role of a voluntary natural gas coordinator, GEH Forum participants substantially supported considering actions or mechanisms that could improve situational awareness and communications between the natural gas pipeline system and Bulk Electric System operators, including a tool to disseminate regionally or nationally aggregated information regarding the operational status of natural gas pipelines.<sup>87</sup> In discussions, GEH Forum participants stated that there may be existing tools, such as the NGInsight tool developed by Argonne National Laboratory, that could provide much of the functionality identified as important to market participants.

GEH Forum participants proposed the consideration of tools that could aggregate and analyze available natural gas pipeline electronic bulletin board (EBB) data as well as facilitate timelier access to such information through a singular portal.<sup>88</sup> Participants suggested that such a tool would provide entities with a better understanding of operational information, such as available capacity and scheduled quantity<sup>89</sup> and may improve upon the ability of system operators to make decisions during critical events.<sup>90</sup> Additionally, it was explained that given the volume of critical notices and the range of events these notices cover, from scheduled maintenance to curtailments and OFOs, market participants may expend significant time and resources to sort and analyze this information which may cause delays in decision-making processes by system operators during critical events.<sup>91</sup> Participants suggested that a mechanism which could better assimilate locational information, such as through the use of visual mappings,<sup>92</sup> as well as more efficiently filter

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<sup>82</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Pages 58 – 59, NGSA)

<sup>83</sup> April 27, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 7, MISO)

<sup>84</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Pages 66 – 68, SPP)

<sup>85</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 28, AGA) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 61, AGA; Page 68, New England LDC Group)

<sup>86</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 61, AGA; Page 68, New England LDC Group) and April 27, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 2, AGA)

<sup>87</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 3, Recommendation 1.a.1)

<sup>88</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 24, Process Gas Consumers Group, Industrial Energy Consumers of America, and American Forest and Paper Association); GEH Forum Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 4, Southern Company); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 23, 44 Farris)

<sup>89</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 24, Process Gas Consumers Group, Industrial Energy Consumers of America, and American Forest and Paper Association)

<sup>90</sup> GEH Forum Survey Response Comment Submission – February 27, 2023 (Page 314, Southern Company) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 13 – 14, MISO; Pages 15 – 17, SPP)

<sup>91</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 92, MISO)

<sup>92</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 122, Aspen Environmental Group and Page 123, EPSA) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 92 and Page 94, SPP)





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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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critical notices<sup>93</sup> could expedite evaluation of these notices and provide greater understanding of operational conditions and system constraints.<sup>94</sup>

While there was wide, cross-market support for aggregation tools, several participants noted tool development and maintenance can be a costly endeavor.<sup>95</sup> Participants stated that prior to making a determination to pursue a new tool or technology, the costs need to be weighed against potential benefits to ensure the price is proportional to value and that the tool beneficiaries are responsible for bearing such costs.<sup>96</sup> In order to maximize efficiency, and prevent duplicative endeavors, it was suggested that the GEH Forum evaluate existing industry tools.<sup>97</sup> In these discussions, GEH Forum participants identified that there are third-party tools from commercial developers that offer data aggregation and analytical services for natural gas pipeline informational postings<sup>98</sup> and that some ISOs and RTOs have developed similar aggregation and dashboard style tools for internal use.<sup>99</sup> In evaluating the availability of the tools, including those developed by ISOs and RTOs, participants suggested that the NGInsights tool developed by Argonne National Laboratories may meet the needs of the ISO and RTO community and avoid redundancies.<sup>100</sup>

In a presentation made to the GEH Forum, Argonne National Laboratory stated that the NGInsight tool collects EBB data and provides near real-time assimilation of information from approximately 75% of interstate and offshore natural gas pipelines, creating a national-level view of natural gas system situational awareness.<sup>101</sup> The data collected and displayed by the tool includes information that identifies unsubscribed capacity, total scheduled quantity as a function of state, county, and/or pipeline as well as critical and non-critical notices, and the tool has the ability to layer other relevant datasets, such as utility service territories and weather alerts.<sup>102</sup> While the tool cannot predict if a specific shipper is capable of providing natural gas, it can perform data analyses that connect natural gas pipelines to applicable natural gas processing plants and categorize receipt points (e.g. gathering system interconnection, LNG terminal, compressor, etc.), making it possible to identify the potential impact of weather or other critical events on overall natural gas supply.<sup>103</sup> Additionally, through machine learning informed by ISO and RTO market participant input, the tool is able to rank natural gas pipeline notifications provided through EBBs on a scale of 1 – 5, with level 5 being reserved for major unexpected outages and force majeure.<sup>104</sup>

As indicated by Argonne National Laboratory, additional funding could enhance the benefits that are provided by the tool. Future functionality could include aggregating information from all interstate natural gas pipelines, providing more granular locational data to help identify the areas and facilities that may be impacted by a critical notice, and implementing security protections and tool access protocols.<sup>105</sup> Argonne National Laboratories confirmed that there is currently limited access to the tool and, if there is to be wider utilization of the tool, expressed support for controlled access through a user vetting process and cybersecurity protections.<sup>106</sup> Additionally, Argonne National Laboratories indicated that with greater funding, the tool could potentially incorporate data collected from intrastate natural gas pipelines with EBBs and other market participants, such as LDCs, that provide EBB data. GEH Forum participants stated that the data aggregation and analyses provided by the tool, as well as several of the enhanced functionalities

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<sup>93</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 27, MISO, PJM, & SPP); October 21, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Pages 8 – 9, MISO, PJM and SPP); and April 4, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 3, New Jersey Natural Gas)

<sup>94</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 27, MISO, PJM, & SPP) and October 21, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Pages 8 – 9, MISO, PJM and SPP)

<sup>95</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 18, INGAA and Page 20, AGA)

<sup>96</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 18, INGAA and Page 20, AGA)

<sup>97</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 20, AGA)

<sup>98</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 23, 44 Farris and Xcel Energy)

<sup>99</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 8, CAISO and Pages 10 and 22, ISONE)

<sup>100</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 19 and 22, ISONE and Page 20, NYISO) and May 17, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Pages 2 – 3, ISONE and PJM)

<sup>101</sup> Argonne National Laboratory Presentation – June 29, 2023 (Page 3, Argonne National Laboratory)

<sup>102</sup> Argonne National Laboratory Presentation – June 29, 2023 (Pages 3 – 4, Argonne National Laboratory)

<sup>103</sup> Argonne National Laboratory Presentation – June 29, 2023 (Pages 3 – 6, Argonne National Laboratory)

<sup>104</sup> Argonne National Laboratory Presentation – June 29, 2023 (Page 5, Argonne National Laboratory)

<sup>105</sup> Argonne National Laboratory Presentation – June 29, 2023 (Page 5, Argonne National Laboratory)

<sup>106</sup> June 29, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 2, Argonne National Laboratory)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

discussed as part of the GEH Forum record, could improve reliability but noted that if there are any concerns regarding a commercial advantage that could be created from use of the tool, these would need to be addressed by FERC.<sup>107</sup>

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH Forum recommended that the natural gas system data aggregations and analyses that can be provided through expanding the NGinsight tool by Argonne National Laboratory will provide additional transparency regarding natural gas system operational information that can improve upon reliability during critical events when demand for both natural gas and electricity is expected to increase and encouraged the consideration of actions that could support further tool development and ongoing maintenance.

NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 2						
Quadrant and Segment	Response Total		Response Balanced		Balanced Percentage	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>						
Producers	4	1	1.6	0.4	80%	20%
Pipelines	13	6	1.37	0.63	68%	32%
Local Distribution Companies	5	1	1.67	0.33	83.5%	16.5%
End Users	5	5	1	1	50%	50%
Services	4	4	1	1	50%	50%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>6.64</b>	<b>3.36</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>34%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>						
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	7	3	1.4	0.6	70%	30%
Marketers/Brokers	3	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	3	1	1.5	0.5	75%	25%
End Users	1	1	1	1	50%	50%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	5	1	1.67	0.33	83.5%	16.5%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10.57</b>	<b>2.43</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>19%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>						
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	0	6	0	2	0%	100%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>						
<b>Total:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>87.5%</b>	<b>12.5%</b>

<sup>107</sup> June 29, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 2)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

***Recommendation 3:*** *The FERC should take steps to facilitate the expansion of the Argonne National Laboratory NGInsight tool, with funding from a federal governmental agency, such as the Department of Energy, to improve situational awareness and communication between owners and operators of natural gas production and processing facilities and Bulk Electric System operators. Such communication could include aggregated volume data or confirmed scheduled quantities for key upstream receipt points. Access to and use of the tool should include appropriate security protocols and market protections.*

The November 2021 Report states that during Winter Storm Uri, natural gas supply outages that initiated at the wellhead created a cascading effect that led to reductions in natural gas processing, declarations of operational flow orders and force majeure, and derates and outages of natural gas-fired generators.<sup>108</sup> GEH Forum participants noted that similar production issues encountered during Winter Storm Elliott also led to a loss in fuel supply by natural gas-fired generators and suggested that the lack of visibility regarding upstream facilities may be impacting reliable operations of the Bulk Electric System during critical weather events.<sup>109</sup> There was significant support among natural gas and electric market participants for wellhead and midstream facility operators to make available information regarding any encountered operational challenges that could provide a better understanding of potential downstream impacts,<sup>110</sup> including improved communications regarding wellhead issues that may affect the flow of natural gas.<sup>111</sup>

Several ISOs and RTOs stated that the lack of coordination between owners and operators of natural gas production facilities and natural gas-fired generators or system operators often means that supply issues are not known until near real-time with the issuance of a force majeure.<sup>112</sup> It was explained that direct sight into the status of natural gas production would provide broader situational awareness and likely give ISOs and RTOs added time to plan for potential drops in fuel supply and dispatch different generation resources.<sup>113</sup> Additionally, participants suggested that greater transparency regarding production issues could better position natural gas end-users to prepare for extreme weather events by providing more time to seek alternative supply or fuel arrangements.<sup>114</sup> GEH Forum participants also noted that the availability of information regarding weather-related production issues could assist purchasers in evaluating the reliability of a natural gas supplier<sup>115</sup> as well as incentivize wellhead and production facility weatherization.<sup>116</sup>

To facilitate the provision of information related to operational issues encountered by production facility operators, some GEH Forum participants suggested the consideration of posting requirements in a manner similar to how interstate natural gas pipelines make available critical notices.<sup>117</sup> This information could be shared via email or through a centralized posting website<sup>118</sup> or made available to impacted downstream entities through an interstate natural gas pipeline's EBB,<sup>119</sup> which participants explained would help to ensure timely awareness of changes in operating conditions that impact natural gas supply.<sup>120</sup> While there were proposals for FERC or state action to facilitate

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<sup>108</sup> FERC-NERC-Regional Entity Staff Report: The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (Page 13)

<sup>109</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 328, IESO, ISONE, NYISO, PJM, and SPP) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 76, MISO)

<sup>110</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 49, Recommendation 1.c.26)

<sup>111</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 303, New England LDC Group and Page 328, IESO, ISONE, NYISO, PJM, and SPP)

<sup>112</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 118, PJM and SPP)

<sup>113</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 118, PJM and SPP) and January 12, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Pages 2 – 3, PJM)

<sup>114</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 16 – 17, PGC & AF&PA); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 118, PJM and SPP); and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 22, Xcel Energy)

<sup>115</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 165, Xcel Energy) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 22, Xcel Energy)

<sup>116</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 4, Xcel Energy) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Pages 18 – 19, AEP and Page 22, Evergy)

<sup>117</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 73, New England LDC Group and Page 75, ISONE)

<sup>118</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 73, New England LDC Group)

<sup>119</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 75, Xcel Energy; Page 76, MISO; and Page 81, Dominion Energy)

<sup>120</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 73, New England LDC Group and Page 75, ISONE)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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such posting requirements,<sup>121</sup> suggestions to encourage voluntary data posting or coordination communications between natural gas producers and pipelines and electric system operators were made as well.<sup>122</sup> As an alternative, there was also a suggestion that supply reductions could be better captured by receipt and delivery points data from natural gas pipelines.<sup>123</sup> However, it was noted that interstate natural gas pipelines already post critical notices regarding pipeline operational issues that impact supply and there was a suggestion that there may be a lack of support to expand such requirements as well as opposition to any requirements that could involve speculation as to the actions of natural gas shippers.<sup>124</sup>

Some GEH Forum participants stated that more formalized information sharing processes may not be needed and identified potential barriers that could prevent information sharing by natural gas production owners and operators. GEH Forum participants noted that bilateral information exchanges already occur between appropriate counterparties regarding applicable wellhead information<sup>125</sup> and that natural gas suppliers have an innate incentive to honor contractual commitments by seeking alternative arrangements or, if supply issues hamper this ability, providing prompt notice to customers.<sup>126</sup> Additionally, it was provided that some states, such as Texas, may already have coordination procedures that include identification of wellhead and midstream operational issues.<sup>127</sup> Regarding potential barriers, comments provided as part of the GEH Forum record stated that natural gas production data contains proprietary and commercially sensitive information that would need to be aggregated prior to posting but that there may not be an efficient mechanism to do so, given the number of producers and production facilities.<sup>128</sup> While some information could likely be made available in a manner that would protect confidentiality,<sup>129</sup> it was noted that there also may be regulatory considerations that would need to be addressed prior to releasing the data.<sup>130</sup>

As discussed by GEH Forum participants, leveraging the NGinsights tool developed by Argonne National Laboratory could resolve some of the identified concerns regarding information sharing while also improving the situational awareness provided by the tool.<sup>131</sup> In a presentation provided to the GEH Forum, Argonne National Laboratory stated that with additional funding, the tool functionality could be expanded to incorporate and aggregate operational data from additional categories of market participants.<sup>132</sup> The NGinsights tool currently uses interstate natural gas pipeline nomination and scheduled quantity data to identify potential impacts to overall natural gas supply levels from weather events,<sup>133</sup> and information regarding the operational status of natural gas production facilities could provide more granularity to the analyses, making it easier to identify regions that could be impacted by supply shortfalls. The use of the NGinsights tool also could address confidentiality concerns as the tool data is aggregated, and Argonne National Laboratory supports controlled user access if the tool is to become more widely utilized.<sup>134</sup>

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH Forum supported the development of voluntary information sharing practices for natural gas producers, including through the use of industry tools, to provide additional data to market participants regarding production facility operations as a way to create greater natural gas system awareness and improve reliability of the bulk electric system.

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<sup>121</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 305, AF&PA/PGC) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 82, MISO)

<sup>122</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 16 – 17, PGC & AF&PA) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 75, NGSA)

<sup>123</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 74 – 75, NGSA)

<sup>124</sup> November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 7, INGAA) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 73, INGAA)

<sup>125</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 117, AGA)

<sup>126</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 74, NGSA)

<sup>127</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 76, Kinder Morgan)

<sup>128</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 74, NGSA)

<sup>129</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 75, ISONE)

<sup>130</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 74, NGSA)

<sup>131</sup> June 29, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 2, Argonne National Laboratory)

<sup>132</sup> Argonne National Laboratory Presentation – June 29, 2023 (Page 8, Argonne National Laboratory)

<sup>133</sup> Argonne National Laboratory Presentation – June 29, 2023 (Pages 3 – 6, Argonne National Laboratory)

<sup>134</sup> June 29, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 2, Argonne National Laboratory)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 3						
Quadrant and Segment	Response Total		Response Balanced		Balanced Percentage	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Producers	4	3	1.14	0.86	57%	43%
Pipelines	12	7	1.26	0.74	68%	32%
Local Distribution Companies	6	1	1.71	0.29	86%	14%
End Users	5	5	1	1	50%	50%
Services	2	5	0.57	1.43	29%	71%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>5.68</b>	<b>4.32</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>43%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	7	3	1.4	0.6	70%	30%
Marketers/Brokers	3	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	2	1	1.33	0.67	66.5%	33.5%
End Users	1	1	1	1	50%	50%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	5	1	1.67	0.33	83.5%	16.5%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	0	5	0	2	0%	100%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Total:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>87.5%</b>	<b>12.5%</b>



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

***Recommendation 4:*** *On May 3, 2023, a request for standards development was submitted to NAESB to consider modifications to the force majeure language of the NAESB Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas to, among other things, encourage weatherization actions. The NAESB Gas-Electric Harmonization (GEH) Forum endorses this evaluation and encourages the NAESB Wholesale Gas Quadrant to act with utmost expediency to address this request on a timely basis.*

In discussing programs that could encourage and provide compensation opportunities for natural gas infrastructure facility winterization, as requested by the November 2021 Report,<sup>135</sup> several participants proposed that modifications to the NAESB Base Contract for the Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas (NAESB Base Contract) could create market incentives for weatherization.<sup>136</sup> The NAESB Base Contract, in use by the industry since 1996, and its addendums support transactions for natural gas as well as certified and renewable natural gas and is widely utilized by parties in the United States to streamline the contracting process. Participants suggested that modifications to the force majeure provisions within the terms and conditions established by the NAESB Base Contract could add a greater level of transparency regarding the conditions under which a party may invoke force majeure as well as create financial accountability for parties that do not adequately weatherize their facilities.<sup>137</sup>

During GEH Forum discussions, while several participants proposed specific changes to the force majeure provisions,<sup>138</sup> some concern was expressed that removing or modifying the language could increase costs for natural gas consumers and result in undue risk, as not all conditions that could contribute to force majeure are within the control of a natural gas supplier.<sup>139</sup> Additionally, some participants explained that in a competitive market, natural gas end users have a number of natural gas suppliers to choose from and, as part of contract negotiations, are able to specify their own terms and conditions such as customized force majeure provisions.<sup>140</sup> However, others noted that it has been a number of years since the force majeure provisions in the NAESB Base Contract were substantively revised<sup>141</sup> and that over the past few winter seasons, there appears to have been an increase in the number of force majeure claims attributable to cold weather events.<sup>142</sup> A majority of GEH Forum participants supported actions to incent natural gas infrastructure weatherization,<sup>143</sup> including prioritizing contract language modifications.<sup>144</sup>

On May 3, 2023, outside of the GEH Forum process, Southwest Power Pool, PJM Interconnection, MISO Energy, Texas Competitive Power Association, UGI Utilities, and CenterPoint Energy jointly submitted a request for standards development (Standards Request R23001) to NAESB proposing revisions to the NAESB Base Contract to improve the clarity associated with the force majeure provisions in the contract. Currently, the WGQ Contracts Subcommittee is meeting to address this request.

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH Forum recommended it would be prudent to explore modifications to model contract language that could better incent weatherization of natural gas infrastructure and supports posthaste consideration of any such proposals.

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<sup>135</sup> FERC-NERC-Regional Entity Staff Report: The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (Page 196)

<sup>136</sup> February 2, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 2, Xcel Energy); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 165, AGA; Page 166, TCPA; and Page 166, Aspen Environmental Group); and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 25, MISO and Page 28, New England LDC Group)

<sup>137</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 165, Xcel Energy) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 28, SPP)

<sup>138</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 26, Xcel Energy; Page 27, CenterPoint Energy; and Page 27, Southwest Gas Corporation)

<sup>139</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 24, NGSA and Page 24, Kinder Morgan Intrastate Pipeline Group)

<sup>140</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 24, NGSA and Page 24, Kinder Morgan Intrastate Pipeline Group)

<sup>141</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 143, Southern Company)

<sup>142</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 96, SPP)

<sup>143</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 70, Recommendation 2.b.2)

<sup>144</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 165, AGA)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 4						
Quadrant and Segment	Response Total		Response Balanced		Balanced Percentage	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Producers	0	9	0	2	0%	100%
Pipelines	2	8	0.4	1.6	20%	80%
Local Distribution Companies	10	0	2	0	100%	0%
End Users	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
Services	4	5	0.89	1.11	44.5%	55.5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>5.09</b>	<b>4.91</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>49%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	11	0	2	0	100%	0%
Marketers/Brokers	3	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	3	1	1.5	0.5	75%	25%
End Users	2	1	1.33	0.67	66.5%	33.5%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	6	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11.83</b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	5	1	1.67	0.33	83.5%	16.5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4.67</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Total:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>87.5%</b>	<b>12.5%</b>



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

***Recommendation 5:*** *The FERC should direct the natural gas and electric industries to find ways to encourage more frequent use of capacity release or asset management arrangements (AMAs) and more timely release of unutilized interstate pipeline capacity that does not impact the reliability of the firm capacity holder. Further, the FERC should direct NAESB to revise its business practice standards to standardize the necessary transactional informational posting, timeliness and transparency requirements for these capacity releases.*

Several GEH Forum electric market participants recommended that more efficient interstate capacity reallocation would be beneficial during critical events when demand is high and there is limited capacity. It was explained that although capacity may not always be available for release, especially during times of peak demand,<sup>145</sup> capacity release programs are one tool utilized by natural gas-fired generators to obtain needed capacity once dispatched.<sup>146</sup> Additionally, as stated by comments made as part of the GEH Forum record, capacity can also be obtained through products and services offered by marketers that have entered into asset management agreements (AMAs) with parties to optimize the utilization of unused firm capacity.<sup>147</sup> While GEH Forum participants made recommendations that would substantively modify the existing secondary capacity market, there was significant support among both natural gas and electric market participants to consider proposals that would improve upon the transparency and efficiency of the current market.<sup>148</sup>

One area of consideration recommended by GEH Forum participants was for the industry, utilizing the NAESB process, to evaluate revisions to the standards that define the business processes for communicating capacity release information. FERC regulations 18 C.F.R § 284.13 require interstate pipelines to make available, through internet website postings, certain information related to the release or purchase of capacity and these postings must conform to the NAESB WGQ Business Practice Standards, incorporated by reference as part of 18 C.F.R § 284.12.<sup>149</sup> As noted by GEH Forum participants, these informational postings provide transparency to the capacity release process and allow buyers and sellers to obtain the necessary information to participate in these transactions.<sup>150</sup> GEH Forum participants explained that, typically, interstate natural gas pipelines will post offers to release or purchase capacity to password-protected customer activities websites, and, once capacity is awarded, post information regarding the released capacity, including the identification of the releasing and replacement shipper and contract terms and conditions, to publicly available informational postings websites.<sup>151</sup> In addition to this information, it was stated that natural gas pipelines are required to maintain and post an index of customers which can be used to identify firm shippers that may be releasing capacity during periods of peak demand.<sup>152</sup>

Although some participants suggested that there is a sufficient level of information available,<sup>153</sup> other proposals made by both natural gas end users and natural gas pipelines proposed that slight modifications to the NAESB Business Practice Standards regarding the posting and availability of capacity release information could provide additional transparency that would be of material benefit to market participants.<sup>154</sup> It was stated that because offers for capacity release are commonly only posted to an interstate pipeline's password protected customer activities website, a party seeking to view open offers must first contact the interstate pipeline to obtain a username and password and then login to the website.<sup>155</sup> To make obtaining and subscribing to capacity more efficient as well as reduce barriers to accessing information, it was suggested that interstate natural gas pipelines duplicate postings for open offers of capacity to their

<sup>145</sup> December 5, 2022 Supplemental Comments (Pages 2 and 5, NGSA)

<sup>146</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 22, PJM, MISO, SPP & NYISO); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 56, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group)

<sup>147</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 57, NGSA)

<sup>148</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Recommendations 1.b.5 and 1.b.9)

<sup>149</sup> October 21, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 5, INGAA) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 39 – 41 and 53 – 55, INGAA)

<sup>150</sup> November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 4, Kinder Morgan) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 53 – 55, INGAA; Page 55, New England LDC Group; and Pages 56 – 57, AGA)

<sup>151</sup> November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 4, Kinder Morgan) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 53 – 55, INGAA; Page 55, New England LDC Group; and Pages 56 – 57, AGA)

<sup>152</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 40 – 41, INGAA)

<sup>153</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Response – March 31, 2023 (Pages 39 – 41, INGAA; Page 55, New England LDC Group; and Pages 56 – 57, AGA)

<sup>154</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 42 – 43, Kinder Morgan) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 56, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group)

<sup>155</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 42 – 43, Kinder Morgan)





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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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publicly available informational postings website.<sup>156</sup> GEH participants explained that the duplication of open offer postings could also improve the ability to aggregate capacity release information, which some GEH Forum participants indicated would be beneficial.<sup>157</sup> Additionally, it was proposed that interstate natural gas pipelines make available information regarding losing bids for capacity as such information could provide additional assurances that the capacity release market remains competitive and non-discriminatory.<sup>158</sup>

Several of the proposals related to the secondary market for capacity made by GEH Forum participants included actions that may require policy changes or direction from regulators. FERC rules and regulations contained in 18 C.F.R § 284.8 establish the interstate capacity release program by requiring interstate natural gas pipelines offering firm transportation services to have tariff provisions that facilitate the ability of shippers to release firm capacity for resale and include requirements related to timing and notifications.<sup>159</sup> Participants suggested that natural gas-fired generator planning processes could be assisted if there was advanced notice regarding potential availability of capacity for the next day be provided and real-time information was incorporated into the capacity release process for informational postings.<sup>160</sup> It was also noted that some local distribution companies may inadvertently retain unused capacity, which could be addressed through the development of real-time reforecasting methodologies.<sup>161</sup> However, other participants explained that as firm capacity is tied to contractual agreements, parties may not have knowledge regarding the amount of capacity that could be available prior to the start of the Gas Day, especially local distribution companies with regulatory obligations to serve, meaning that shippers are likely already providing close to real-time information regarding released capacity.<sup>162</sup> Additionally, GEH Forum participants explained that in posting capacity release information, such as offers to release and purchase, interstate natural gas pipelines are reliant upon third parties and the timing of postings is dependent upon the necessary information being made available.<sup>163</sup>

While there were some suggestions that it may be beneficial to evaluate if the capacity release timeline is sufficient for parties to conduct transactions,<sup>164</sup> others stated that modifications are not needed as the current process allows parties to trade and schedule capacity in a timely manner. Participants noted that parties have multiple opportunities to make offers to purchase capacity as well as adequate time to conduct negotiations prior to natural gas nomination cycle deadlines.<sup>165</sup> GEH Forum participants suggested that, rather than altering the timeline for capacity release, greater participation by natural gas-fired generators may be realized through modifications that better align the scheduling and award process timeline for the wholesale electric market with the timing of the Gas Day.<sup>166</sup>

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<sup>156</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 42 – 43, Kinder Morgan)

<sup>157</sup> December 5, 2022 Supplemental Comments (Page 5, NGSA); GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Recommendation 1.b.6); and GEH Forum GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 42 – 43, Kinder Morgan)

<sup>158</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 56, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group)

<sup>159</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 53 – 55, INGAA)

<sup>160</sup> October 21, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 8, LS Power); GEH Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 14 – 15, and 35 LS Power); and November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Staff Notes (Page 5, PJM, MISO, SPP & NYISO)

<sup>161</sup> October 21, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 8, LS Power); GEH Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 14 – 15, and 35 LS Power); and November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Staff Notes (Page 5, PJM, MISO, SPP & NYISO)

<sup>162</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 32 – 33, AGA); October 21, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 8, AGA); and GEH Forum GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 51 – 52, NGSA, 44 Farris, and Xcel Energy)

<sup>163</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 51, 44 Farris) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 46, INGAA)

<sup>164</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 40, Southern California Generation Coalition) and November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 3, Aspen Environmental)

<sup>165</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 53, INGAA; Page 55, New England LDC Group; and Page 59, New Jersey Natural Gas)

<sup>166</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 54 – 55, INGAA; Page 56, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group; Page 57, NGSA and Page 59, Xcel Energy)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

Beyond these proposals, there was a suggestion that consideration be given to a twenty-four-hour interstate capacity release marketplace.<sup>167</sup> Other participants stated that there are adequate existing mechanisms to reallocate capacity<sup>168</sup> and that prior to considering new platforms or tools, there be an evaluation as to if there are actions that could encourage greater use of the current processes.<sup>169</sup> It was also noted that that additional trading platforms or marketplaces may diminish or dilute the availability of released capacity rather than increase opportunities for transactions.<sup>170</sup> Additionally, while some GEH Forum participants suggested a need to develop standardized posting and transacting requirements to better facilitate bilateral exchanges of capacity on the secondary market,<sup>171</sup> others stated that there are existing FERC rules and regulations, such as those promulgated through Orders No 712 and 809, that are applicable to bilateral transactions for the release of capacity.<sup>172</sup>

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH Forum recommended action to direct the development of additional or modified business practice standards to improve transparency and improve upon the efficiencies of the secondary market for capacity would be beneficial in ensuring meaningful access to the natural gas pipeline transportation grid and promoting effective use of firm capacity.

<b>NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 5</b>						
<b>Quadrant and Segment</b>	<b>Response Total</b>		<b>Response Balanced</b>		<b>Balanced Percentage</b>	
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Producers	4	1	1.6	0.4	80%	20%
Pipelines	14	5	1.47	0.53	73.5%	26.5%
Local Distribution Companies	4	4	1	1	50%	50%
End Users	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
Services	4	4	1	1	50%	50%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6.87</b>	<b>3.13</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>31%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	10	1	1.82	0.18	91%	9%
Marketers/Brokers	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	3	1	1.5	0.5	75%	25%
End Users	1	1	1	1	50%	50%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11.32</b>	<b>1.68</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>13%</b>

<sup>167</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 40, Southern California Generation Coalition)

<sup>168</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 40, NGSA) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 46, INGAA)

<sup>169</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 51, NGSA)

<sup>170</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 40, NGSA) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 46, INGAA)

<sup>171</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 22, MISO, PJM & SPP) and October 21, 2022 GEH Forum Staff Notes (Pages 5 – 6, MISO, PJM & SPP) GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 40, Southern California Generation Coalition)

<sup>172</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 3, NGSA); December 5, 2022 GEH Forum Supplemental Comments (Page 2, NGSA)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

<b>Retail Energy Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	0	6	0	2	0%	100%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Total:</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.71</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>85.5%</b>	<b>14.5%</b>



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

***Recommendation 6:*** *The FERC should consider policy modifications necessary to better facilitate advanced agreements between end users and remove barriers to the release of capacity, similar to those adopted as part of FERC Order No. 712 (to support the use of asset management agreements).*

While discussing the release of available capacity, GEH Forum participants noted that during times of critical demand, there are often non-critical end users of natural gas, such as commercial and industrial (C&I) market participants, that can voluntarily curtail or shut-down operations and sell back firm capacity and supply rights but that new mechanisms may be needed to better facilitate these types of transactions.<sup>173</sup> While different proposals were discussed, several participants expressed support for the utilization of market-driven solutions.<sup>174</sup> It was suggested that advanced exchange agreements could more efficiently enable transactions for available capacity directly between geographically close natural gas end users but that FERC action may be necessary to remove any barriers to executing these agreements.<sup>175</sup>

GEH Forum participants emphasized the importance of limiting these types of transactions to times when extreme events are causing spikes in demand for natural gas and electricity.<sup>176</sup> It was noted that the success of advanced exchange agreements will, in part, rely upon the ability of natural gas end users to pre-arrange transport in order to ensure that the natural gas can be delivered as specified by the terms and conditions of the contract.<sup>177</sup> Additionally, as parties will likely be entering into these agreements so that the natural gas-fired generator can quickly obtain the needed capacity and supply when dispatched, it was suggested that the effectiveness of advanced exchange agreement will be dependent on the proximity of the trading partners and the speed at which the other end user can curtail or shut-down operations.<sup>178</sup> While comments noted that marketers, with their network of natural gas producers and end users, can play a role in matching parties, the ability to curtail is largely dependent upon the nature of the end user's business and if the end user can shut-down operations while ensuring the safety of people and the protection of equipment.<sup>179</sup> It was stated though that there may be some areas of the country with a heavy concentration of C&I end users that provide critical services who could not forgo natural gas supply.<sup>180</sup>

As noted in the GEH Forum record, current policies applicable to the release of capacity could make it difficult to execute advanced exchange agreements.<sup>181</sup> It was suggested that parties seeking to enter into an advanced exchange agreement may need to obtain waivers from FERC for rules that require the shipper have title to natural gas while being transported and at the time of delivery as well as requirements that prohibit buy/sell transactions and the tying of capacity release to extraneous conditions.<sup>182</sup> Participants noted that FERC granted waivers of a similar nature in the past to parties seeking to enter into AMAs, and eventually modified its capacity release policies through Order No.

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<sup>173</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 23, Process Gas Consumers Group & American Forest Paper Association) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 13 and 22, MISO, PJM & SPP)

<sup>174</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 13 and 22, MISO, PJM & SPP and Page 28, Process Gas Consumers Group, Industrial Energy Consumers of America, and American Forest and Paper Association); October 21, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 3, Process Gas Consumers Group, Industrial Energy Consumers of America, and American Forest and Paper Association); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 34, NGSA); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 3, NGSA); and December 5, 2022 GEH Forum Supplemental Comments (Page 2, NGSA)

<sup>175</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 50, NGSA)

<sup>176</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 28, Process Gas Consumers Group, Industrial Energy Consumers of America, and American Forest and Paper Association); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 34, NGSA); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 50, NGSA)

<sup>177</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 13, MISO, PJM & SPP and Page 28, Process Gas Consumers Group, Industrial Energy Consumers of America, and American Forest and Paper Association); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 34, NGSA); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 49 – 50, NGSA)

<sup>178</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 49 – 51, NGSA)

<sup>179</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 16, PGC & AF&PA); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 38, AF&PA and PGC); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 49, NGSA)

<sup>180</sup> April 4, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 5, Kinder Morgan Intrastate Pipeline Group)

<sup>181</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 50, NGSA)

<sup>182</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 47 – 49, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group and Pages 49 – 51, NGSA)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

712 to facilitate the use of AMAs in the most effective manner.<sup>183</sup> In the alternative, GEH Forum participants explained that there are existing mechanisms that provide natural gas-fired generators with the ability to obtain capacity, like working with natural gas marketers and executing other types of contracts such as AMAs and multi-party agreements for sharing pipeline capacity.<sup>184</sup>

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH Forum recommended advanced exchange agreements directly between end users can add efficiencies to the reallocation of capacity during critical events, and as such, there should be consideration as to if there are any policy changes by FERC that may better facilitate such agreements.

<b>NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 6</b>						
<b>Quadrant and Segment</b>	<b>Response Total</b>		<b>Response Balanced</b>		<b>Balanced Percentage</b>	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>						
Producers	0	5	0	2	0%	100%
Pipelines	10	7	1.18	0.82	59%	41%
Local Distribution Companies	6	1	1.71	0.29	85.5%	13.5%
End Users	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
Services	5	3	1.25	0.75	62.5%	37.5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>5.94</b>	<b>4.06</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>41%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>						
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	10	1	1.82	0.18	91%	9%
Marketers/Brokers	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	3	1	1.5	0.5	75%	25%
End Users	1	1	1	1	50%	50%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11.32</b>	<b>1.68</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>						
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	0	6	0	2	0%	100%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>						
<b>Total:</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.71</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>85.5%</b>	<b>14.5%</b>

<sup>183</sup> December 5, 2022 GEH Forum Supplemental Comments (Pages 2 – 3, NGSA) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 50, NGSA)

<sup>184</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 47 – 49, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group and Pages 49 – 51, NGSA)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

***Recommendation 7:*** *State public utility commissions and applicable state authorities in states with competitive energy markets should engage with producers, marketers and intrastate pipelines to ensure that such parties' operations are fully functioning on a 24/7 basis in preparation for and during events in which extreme weather is forecasted to cause demand to rise sharply for both electricity and natural gas, including during weekends and holidays. (States could consider the approaches adopted in FERC regulations affecting the interstate pipelines.) In instances where state authorities lack enabling authority to take such actions, the FERC should adopt regulations to achieve identical outcomes within its authority.*

The GEH Forum record reflects extensive discussion from participants on the ability to schedule and procure natural gas, especially over weekends and holidays, prior to and during critical events when demand is expected to rise sharply for both electricity and natural gas. A number of GEH Forum participants from the wholesale electric market stated that during these periods, there can be both a lack of scheduling opportunities as well as difficulties in obtaining natural gas.<sup>185</sup> While GEH Forum participants discussed varying causes that may contribute to these difficulties, several participants noted the lack of an effective marketplace that provides the needed flexibilities to efficiently procure natural gas over weekends and holidays.<sup>186</sup>

GEH Forum participants stated that while market participants have the ability to acquire natural gas over weekends and holidays, the current marketplace only supports a limited number of transactions, meaning that, in practical terms, on the Friday before, market participants must obtain sufficient natural gas for the entirety of the weekend or holiday period.<sup>187</sup> It was explained that this practice can result in over procurement, which may artificially increase demand, reduce liquidity, and impact customer costs.<sup>188</sup> Participants also noted that the impact from the lack of an effective marketplace over weekends and holidays can be particularly problematic for natural gas-fired generators attempting to procure capacity and supply after being dispatched.<sup>189</sup> As noted in comments submitted as part of the GEH Forum record, a successful weekend and holiday natural gas marketplace is dependent upon a number of factors, including sufficient market engagement, price signals to incentivize sellers to reserve natural gas supplies, and the availability of sufficient resources to meet just-in-time procurement needs, all of which can be supported through increased interactions and coordination between natural gas suppliers, marketers, and natural-gas fired generators.<sup>190</sup> Additionally, GEH participants stated that there is a significant difference between the level of liquidity in the natural gas commodity market during weekdays versus weekends and holidays,<sup>191</sup> and it was suggested that additional market transparency as well as market products and services that better support acquisition of natural gas over weekends and holidays would be beneficial during critical events.<sup>192</sup>

Some participants proposed that additional intraday nomination cycles could provide greater scheduling flexibility for natural gas-fired generators and would be particularly beneficial during periods when there is an unexpected change

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<sup>185</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 21, MISO, PJM, and SPP); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 40, Southern California Generation Coalition; Page 40, PJM, MISO, SPP & NYISO); January 12, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 3, Nebraska Public Power District); GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Pages 4 – 5, Xcel Energy); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 299 – 300, EPSA); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 325, NYISO); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 328, IESO, NEISO, NYISO, PJM, and SPP)

<sup>186</sup> Updated GEH Forum Responses – September 14, 2022 (Pages 28 – 29, Dominion); September 23, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Notes (Page 5, Dominion Energy); September 23, GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 2, Reliable Energy Analytics); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 40, Southern California Generation Coalition) GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Pages 4 – 5, Xcel Energy); and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 29, PJM and Pages 328 – 329 IESO, ISONE, NYISO, PJM, and SPP)

<sup>187</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Pages 4 – 5, Xcel Energy)

<sup>188</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Pages 4 – 5, Xcel Energy)

<sup>189</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 119, PJM) and January 12, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 3, MidAmerican and Nebraska Public Power District)

<sup>190</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 39, NGSAs) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 12, NGSAs)

<sup>191</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 40, Southern California Generation Coalition)

<sup>192</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 40, Southern California Generation Coalition and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 84, AGA; Page 91, PJM; Page 267, SPP; and Pages 328 – 329, IESO, ISONE, NYISO, PJM, and SPP)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

in demand for natural gas.<sup>193</sup> Participants explained that additional nomination cycles could increase efficiencies for natural gas-fired generators by truncating the time between nominations and gas flow, allowing for the acquisition of fuel supplies closer to real-time supply need when forecasts are more accurate and there are typically less system variances.<sup>194</sup> Other GEH Forum participants stated that the NAESB WGQ Business Practice Standard 1.3.4, incorporated by reference under 18 C.F.R § 284.12, require interstate natural gas pipelines to support the nominations process twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week<sup>195</sup> and suggested that changes to the nomination cycle may not substantially improve upon the ability of wholesale electric natural gas end users to schedule and procure natural gas.<sup>196</sup> Participants explained that during times of critical peak demand, firm shippers are likely to submit nominations for their full capacity rights, meaning that entities who do not have firm transportation and supply rights would likely face the same issues in obtaining capacity as they do today.<sup>197</sup> It was also stated that while past industry action to add the third intraday nomination cycle created some additional scheduling flexibility, it is primarily used for timely nomination balancing adjustments.<sup>198</sup> Additionally, there were suggestions that changes to the natural gas nominations process may have limited impact on weekend and holiday scheduling as customary practice among a number of natural gas buyers and sellers is to engage in advanced transactions that span the entirety of such time periods.<sup>199</sup>

Several GEH Forum participants stated that adequate opportunities to schedule natural gas are important but that the increased demand for natural gas also highlights the need for a reliably available supply chain.<sup>200</sup> It was noted that during both Winter Storm Uri and Winter Storm Elliott, natural gas-fired generators encountered supply issues that could, in part, be attributed to a drop in production.<sup>201</sup> Per the GEH Forum record, a key element to ensuring a natural gas supply sufficient to meet electric reliability needs is the mitigation and management of physical and operational disruptions along all parts of the supply line,<sup>202</sup> but as both Winter Storm Uri and Winter Storm Elliott appear to demonstrate, wellhead and mid-stream facilities in particular are not adequately performing during stressed system conditions, indicating the importance of state regulators in ensuring the reliability of natural gas supply.<sup>203</sup>

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH Forum noted making modifications to the existing interstate natural gas pipeline nomination, scheduling, and confirmation process may be less impactful, and recommended that actions by regulators that can ensure continuous availability of a natural gas marketplace, such as

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<sup>193</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 21, MISO, PJM, and SPP)

<sup>194</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 21, MISO, PJM, and SPP); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 40, PJM, MISO, SPP & NYISO); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 325, NYISO); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 64 – 65, NYISO and Page 66, NGSA)

<sup>195</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (page 15, INGAA)

<sup>196</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 62 – 63, INGAA; Page 64, New England LDC Group; Page 65, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group; Page 65, AGA; and Pages 66 – 69, NGSA)

<sup>197</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 62 – 63, INGAA and Pages 66 – 69, NGSA)

<sup>198</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 59, Southern Company) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 67, NGSA)

<sup>199</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 62 – 63, INGAA; Page 65, AGA; and Pages 66 – 69, NGSA)

<sup>200</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 17, Kansas Corporation Commission); GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 2, INGAA); January 12, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 4, ConocoPhillips); GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 3, Xcel Energy); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 65, Southern Company); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 60, 44 Farris; Page 65, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group; Pages 66 – 67, NGSA; and Page 73, New England LDC Group); GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 16, AEP and Pages 20 – 21, INGAA)

<sup>201</sup> GEH Forum Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 11, MISO, PJM & SPP); PJM Presentation re Winter Storm Elliott (Page 9, PJM); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 105, SPP Market Monitoring Unit)

<sup>202</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 28, NGSA); GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 3, Xcel Energy and Page 36, SPP)

<sup>203</sup> GEH Forum Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 155, 44 Farris and Page 202, Southern Company); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 29 and 66 – 69, NGSA; Page 71, Kinder Morgan and Page 80, NYISO); GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Pages 1 – 2 and 60 – 61, Kinder Morgan Intrastate Group; Pages 2 – 3, MISO; Pages 6 – 7, Xcel Energy; Page 8, New England LDC Group; Pages 61 – 62, AGA; and Page 75, TPA); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 69, Marcellus Shale Coalition); and June 16, 2023 GEH Forum Staff Notes (Page 4, PJM)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

increasing engagement by market participants, would be of greater benefit during events in which demand is expected to rise sharply for both electricity and natural gas.

<b>NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 7</b>						
<b>Quadrant and Segment</b>	<b>Response Total</b>		<b>Response Balanced</b>		<b>Balanced Percentage</b>	
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Producers	0	3	0	2	0%	100%
Pipelines	1	16	0.12	1.88	6%	94%
Local Distribution Companies	4	3	1.14	0.86	57%	43%
End Users	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
Services	3	3	1	1	50%	50%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>4.06</b>	<b>5.94</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>59%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	9	0	2	0	100%	0%
Marketers/Brokers	3	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	2	1	1.33	0.67	66.5%	33.5%
End Users	1	1	1	1	50%	50%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	6	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11.33</b>	<b>1.67</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	5	1	1.67	0.33	83.5%	16.5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4.67</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Total:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>87.5%</b>	<b>12.5%</b>





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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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***Recommendation 8:*** *FERC should direct Independent System Operators (ISOs) and Regional Transmission Organizations (RTOs) or electric transmission owners/operators, where no ISO or RTO exists, to conduct and report to FERC the results of analyses of actions that better align the timelines of the Power Day and/or the day-ahead scheduling timelines with the gas day, including earlier notification of successful bids, to ensure that schedules are known and made available to allow natural gas-fired generators to procure natural gas and pipeline capacity in periods when the market is most liquid.*

During the GEH Forum process, several participants offered proposals to more closely align electric market scheduling practices with those of the natural gas market to help improve efficiencies for generators procuring natural gas supply and transport.<sup>204</sup> The Gas Day begins at 9:00 AM CCT, with GEH Forum participants stating that this is when the natural gas market is most liquid and that, typically, a significant amount of the available capacity and supply is sold and purchased in the early morning.<sup>205</sup> GEH Forum participants explained that although past FERC proceedings under section 205 of the Federal Power Act resulted in most ISOs and RTOs issuing awards for day-ahead commitments and successful bid notices prior to the close of the timely nomination cycle, the current timing still may result in natural gas-fired generators entering the market after peak liquidity.<sup>206</sup> In order to provide natural gas-fired generators with sufficient lead time to effectively participate in the timely nomination cycle, GEH Forum participants expressed high levels of support to consider changes to the timing and scheduling practices within organized electric markets.<sup>207</sup>

As described by GEH Forum participants, the current timelines for the day-ahead market create issues in procuring natural gas not only during critical events but also under normal operating conditions.<sup>208</sup> It was stated that generators may be receiving dispatch instructions later in the morning, after peak natural gas market liquidity has passed and the majority of natural gas supply has been sold.<sup>209</sup> Participants described the paradox that can be faced by natural gas-fired generators, as there are inherent risks to procuring natural gas capacity and supply prior to confirmation as well as at times other than peak market liquidity.<sup>210</sup> It was noted this risk can be exacerbated on days with high peak natural gas demand as prices are typically higher and natural gas-fired generators may encounter greater capacity and supply shortfalls.<sup>211</sup>

GEH Forum participants suggested that modifying scheduling practices so that electric generators are provided with earlier notification of successful bids will increase the ability of natural gas-fired generators to acquire natural gas supply as well as obtain capacity.<sup>212</sup> These proposals included a specific recommendation that it may be beneficial to consider scheduling changes that would result in successful bid notifications made prior to the start of the Gas Day, between 7:00 AM CCT and 9:00 AM CCT.<sup>213</sup> Some participants also recommended the consideration of changes to the Power Day to better align with the Gas Day,<sup>214</sup> noting that the Power Day is the equivalent of one calendar day

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<sup>204</sup> February 2, 2023 GEH Forum Staff Notes (Page 2, Xcel Energy) and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 299 – 301, EPSA)

<sup>205</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 7, NGSA); September 23, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 3, NGSA); September 23, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 5, MidAmerican Energy Company); and GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 16, INGAA)

<sup>206</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 7, NGSA); September 23, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 3, NGSA); September 23, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 5, MidAmerican Energy Company and Page 7, Nebraska Public Power District); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 (Page 32, INGAA)

<sup>207</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 (Page 32, INGAA) and GEH Survey Response Compiled Data – February 27, 2023 (Page 29, Recommendation 1.c.6)

<sup>208</sup> October 23, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 6, Hoosier Energy REC); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 (Page 38, INGAA); and GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 6, Xcel Energy)

<sup>209</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 (Page 32, INGAA)

<sup>210</sup> October 23, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 6, Hoosier Energy REC); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 (Page 38, INGAA); and GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 6, Xcel Energy)

<sup>211</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 6 – 7, Xcel Energy)

<sup>212</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 16, INGAA); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 74, NGSA and Page 75, ISO New England)

<sup>213</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 74, NGSA)

<sup>214</sup> September 23, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 5, Nebraska Public Power District); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 74, Electric Power Supply Association); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 74, NGSA)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

local time and spans two Gas Days.<sup>215</sup>

In discussing the recommendations, GEH Forum participants stated that the electric market scheduling process is a multi-faceted, regional issue that may not have a singular solution and suggested that proposals may be best considered as part of stakeholder processes.<sup>216</sup> Additionally, some participants indicated that there may be other gas-electric coordination issues that would be more beneficial to address and could diminish the importance of or need for electric market scheduling changes.<sup>217</sup>

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of GEH Forum recommended it may be of the most benefit for ISOs and RTOs or, where applicable, transmission operators, to evaluate if changes to the day-ahead electric scheduling and/or the power day or gas day timelines could provide greater flexibility to natural gas-fired generators in obtaining capacity and supply at the times of greatest market liquidity.

NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 8						
Quadrant and Segment	Response Total		Response Balanced		Balanced Percentage	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>						
Producers	6	0	2	0	100%	0%
Pipelines	13	2	1.73	0.27	86.5%	13.5%
Local Distribution Companies	4	1	1.6	0.4	80%	20%
End Users	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
Services	6	1	1.71	0.29	85.5%	14.5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8.84</b>	<b>1.16</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>						
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
Marketers/Brokers	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	1	1	1	1	50%	50%
End Users	3	0	2	0	100%	0%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	3	1	1.5	0.5	75%	25%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>						
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	1	1	1	1	50%	50%

<sup>215</sup> September 23, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 5, Nebraska Public Power District); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 74 and 300, Electric Power Supply Association); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 74, NGSA)

<sup>216</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 74, SPP and Page 74, EPSA)

<sup>217</sup> September 23, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 4, LS Power); January 12, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 1, MidAmerican Energy Company); and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 74, PJM)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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<b>Total:</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Total:</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

***Recommendation 9:*** *If not already under consideration through stakeholder processes, ISOs and RTOs or the FERC should conduct proceedings and adopt multiday unit commitment processes to better enable the industry to prepare for and provide reliable service during events in which weather is forecasted to cause demand to rise sharply for both electricity and natural gas.*

Another potential area related to electric scheduling identified by GEH Forum participants that may improve reliability during critical events is the use of multiday unit commitment processes, which, as noted in the November 2021 Report, were successfully used during Winter Storm Uri.<sup>218</sup> As explained by GEH Forum participants, electric generators undertake an economic risk in executing purchases for fuel and capacity without a guarantee that the generator will be dispatched, and generator uncertainty regarding dispatch can act to discourage participation in the natural gas marketplace during times of greatest liquidity.<sup>219</sup> This may also be a limiting factor, preventing natural gas-fired generators securing supply ahead of anticipated critical events.<sup>220</sup> GEH Forum participants suggested that advanced notice of unit commitments would increase flexibility for natural gas-fired generators to obtain fuel and better situate the electric industry to adequately plan and prepare to deliver reliable service during extreme events.

There was support from both natural gas and electric market participants to consider the use of multiday clearing processes during and in advance of extreme weather events but some concerns were raised.<sup>221</sup> It was stated that multiday unit commitment processes will require ISOs and RTOs to rely more heavily on advanced forecasts which are typically less precise and subject to greater volatility.<sup>222</sup> Others suggested that steps can be taken to improve forecasting methodologies and noted that even use of the most accurate forecasts can be ineffective if generators are not provided with sufficient time to make adequate preparations.<sup>223</sup> It was explained that while multiday unit commitments may require the use of less accurate forecasting, any mechanisms that can better enable the procurement of fuel supply prior to the start of extreme weather events would likely be an improvement over current processes.<sup>224</sup> GEH Forum participants stated that there are some ISOs and RTOs currently considering the use of multiday commitment processes ahead of extreme weather events and/or as part of resource adequacy requirements but noted the use of multiday commitment processes have been previously considered in some organized markets but were not pursued due to either a lack of identified benefit or participation.<sup>225</sup> Additionally, some participants suggested that rather than revisions to the commitment process, greater improvements to supply procurement might be realized through wider availability of market products and mechanisms to better enable just-in-time procurement.<sup>226</sup>

GEH Forum participants stated utilization of multiday unit commitment processes will likely also need to be accompanied by compensation mechanisms that provide financial assurances to generators acquiring fuel, such as make whole payments.<sup>227</sup> Participants explained that this will be especially important in instances where real-time outcomes do not align with forecast expectations and fuel supplies may go unused.<sup>228</sup> It was suggested that

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<sup>218</sup> FERC-NERC-Regional Entity Staff Report: The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (Pages 62 – 63 and 96)

<sup>219</sup> October 23, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 6, Hoosier Energy REC); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 (Page 38, INGAA); and GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 6 – 7, Xcel Energy)

<sup>220</sup> October 23, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 6, Hoosier Energy REC); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 (Page 38, INGAA); and GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 6 – 7, Xcel Energy)

<sup>221</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 30, Recommendation 1.c.7)

<sup>222</sup> September 23, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 3, CAISO); GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 20 – 21, MISO, PJM & SPP); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 73, NYISO)

<sup>223</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 26, PGC & AF&PA); January 12, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 5, Southern Company); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Pages 65 – 66, Xcel and Page 67, INGAA)

<sup>224</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 65, NGSA)

<sup>225</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 76, MISO and Page 77, SPP) and April 4, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 7, PJM and Page 7, LS Power)

<sup>226</sup> September 23, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 4, LS Power)

<sup>227</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 7, Xcel Energy and Page 15, TCPA) and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 181 and 279, EPSA and Page 229, Xcel Energy)

<sup>228</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 7, Xcel Energy and Page 15, TCPA); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 181 and 279, EPSA); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 75, Xcel Energy)



# North American Energy Standards Board

1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

compensation mechanisms for these scenarios should better reflect the reliability benefit such preparations provide for all market participants within a given footprint or region,<sup>229</sup> though some participants noted that over-procurement and cost recovery mechanisms that compensate generators for acquiring fuel regardless of if it is used may ultimately result in increased costs for customers.<sup>230</sup>

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH recommended it would be beneficial for ISOs and RTOs to evaluate multiday commitment processes with consideration given to appropriate compensation and cost recovery mechanisms.

<b>NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 9</b>						
<b>Quadrant and Segment</b>	<b>Response Total</b>		<b>Response Balanced</b>		<b>Balanced Percentage</b>	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Producers	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
Pipelines	15	2	1.76	0.24	88%	12%
Local Distribution Companies	9	0	2	0	100%	0%
End Users	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
Services	7	1	1.75	0.25	87.5%	12.5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9.31</b>	<b>0.69</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	10	0	2	0	100%	0%
Marketers/Brokers	3	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
End Users	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	2	4	0.67	1.33	33.5%	66.5%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11.67</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	6	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose

<sup>229</sup> February 2, 2023 GEH Forum Staff Notes (Page 2, Xcel Energy) and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 215, NGSA and Page 215, Xcel Energy)

<sup>230</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 2, LS Power); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 30, LS Power); GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 15, TCPA); and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 299, EPSA); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 4, AEP; Page 17, Reliable Energy Analytics; Page 18, AGA



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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<b>Total:</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>
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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

**Recommendation 10:** *State public utility commissions should encourage local distribution companies within their jurisdictions to structure incentives for the development of natural gas and electric demand-response programs in preparation for and during events in which demand is expected to rise sharply for both electricity and natural gas.*

**Recommendation 11:** *State public utility commissions should encourage local distribution companies within their jurisdictions to provide voluntary conservation public service announcements for residential, commercial and industrial customers in preparation for and during events in which demand is expected to rise sharply for both electricity and natural gas.*

As requested in the November 2021 report,<sup>231</sup> the GEH Forum discussed the potential expansion of demand response programs and, subsequently, the utilization of voluntary public service announcements for conservation of natural gas. GEH Forum participants identified the potential benefits that could be realized from robust retail natural gas demand response programs as well as the costs<sup>232</sup> and there was a suggestion that electric demand response programs may provide helpful baseline concepts that could be built upon for natural gas.<sup>233</sup> While it was stated that natural gas demand response programs may not be practical for some consumers,<sup>234</sup> other participants suggested that C&I natural gas end users may be particularly interested in such programs if offered compensation economically justify participation.<sup>235</sup> As part of the record, it was noted that some local distribution companies within New England have implemented demand response programs to various degrees of effectiveness, dependent upon the nature of the customer’s operations and needs.<sup>236</sup> Additionally, there was a recommendation that public service announcements could be used prior to and during critical events to encourage customers to reduce consumption.<sup>237</sup>

One potential identified barrier that may prevent wider participation in natural gas demand response programs is the lack of available telemetry for customers to effectively reduce usage.<sup>238</sup> However, this can be remedied by demand response programs that supply customers with smart meters that deliver real-time usage information, as demonstrated by the pilot program initiated by National Grid.<sup>239</sup> As stated in comments provided as part of the GEH Forum record, during one recent winter storm, National Grid’s natural gas demand response pilot resulted in a demand reduction of eighteen percent.<sup>240</sup> In 2022, National Grid received a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to develop a residential natural gas demand response pilot program, and a similar grant was awarded to Southern California Gas to support pilot programs for both residential and commercial consumers.<sup>241</sup>

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH Forum recommended more wide-spread implementation of demand response programs as well as the use of public service announcements for conservation when they reduce supply constraints during critical events.

NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 10						
Quadrant and Segment	Response Total		Response Balanced		Balanced Percentage	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Wholesale Gas Market						
Producers	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
Pipelines	13	3	1.63	0.37	81.5%	18.5%

<sup>231</sup> FERC-NERC-Regional Entity Staff Report: The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (Page 197)

<sup>232</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 41 – 42, New England LDC Group; Page 42, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group; Page 43, NGSA; Page 43, Reliable Energy Analytics; Page 43, ISONE; and Page 45, SPP)

<sup>233</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 43, Reliable Energy Analytics)

<sup>234</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 45, APGA)

<sup>235</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 17, PGC & AF&PA) and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 58, Aspen Environmental Group)

<sup>236</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 42, New England LDC Group and)

<sup>237</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 42, AGA)

<sup>238</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 18, PGC & AF&PA)

<sup>239</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 42, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group)

<sup>240</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 42, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group)

<sup>241</sup> April 19, 2022 DOE Invests \$3.5 Million for Programs to Improve Natural Gas Infrastructure and Lower Greenhouse Gas Emissions.



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: naesb@naesb.org  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

Local Distribution Companies	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
End Users	10	0	2	0	100%	0%
Services	5	1	1.67	0.33	82.5%	16.5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
Marketers/Brokers	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	2	2	1	1	50%	50%
End Users	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Total:</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>

NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 11						
Quadrant and Segment	Response Total		Response Balanced		Balanced Percentage	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Producers	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
Pipelines	15	2	1.76	0.24	88%	12%
Local Distribution Companies	8	2	1.6	0.4	80%	20%
End Users	10	0	2	0	100%	0%
Services	5	1	1.67	0.33	83.5%	16.5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9.03</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%





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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

Marketers/Brokers	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	2	1	1.33	0.67	66.5%	33.5%
End Users	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12.13</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Total:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>87.5%</b>	<b>12.5%</b>



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

***Recommendation 12:*** *Joint and cross-market, long-term planning should be expanded by relevant gas and electric market parties with an increased focus on fuel adequacy. FERC should encourage this planning coordination using its oversight roles for interstate pipelines, regulated RTO/ISO interstate transmission, and Electric Reliability Organization (ERO)-related Planning Authorities and collaborate with state public utility commissions and applicable state authorities.*

The GEH Forum record includes significant discussion on the importance of planning and the current processes utilized by both the electric and natural gas industries. Recently, FERC initiated a rulemaking proceeding proposing improvements to transmission planning, including the use of long-term scenarios that incorporate, among other factors, considerations related to shifts in demand due to increased electrification and trends in fuel costs.<sup>242</sup> GEH Forum participants noted that transmission planning could be assisted by coordination with natural gas pipelines and that greater cross-market collaboration on long-term planning will likely be needed as the gas and electric industries become more interconnected to help ensure continued reliability.<sup>243</sup> There was significant support by participants for increased coordination activities in this area between natural gas and electric market participants as well as for state and federal regulators to consider actions that can encourage cross-market planning.<sup>244</sup>

While both the wholesale gas and wholesale electric markets have extensive long-term planning processes that are documented as part of the GEH Forum record, there were suggestions that stronger coordination practices could increase transparency. For instance, several ISOs and RTOs stated that their processes would be improved by greater insight into the long-term reliability and contingency planning by the natural gas market.<sup>245</sup> In particular, participants noted that cross-market coordination could be especially helpful in ensuring future fuel adequacy given the increased reliance upon the ability of natural gas-fired generators to meet peak demand.<sup>246</sup> To best address this issue, participants proposed using energy assessments heavily coordinated with natural gas participants as part of transmission planning processes<sup>247</sup> as well as expanding seasonal assessments to better incorporate forecasted natural gas system conditions.<sup>248</sup>

As proposed by GEH Forum participants, cross-market planning could also support the trend towards electrification by helping to realize a cost-effective transition that enables continued electric reliability through adequate access to natural gas supplies.<sup>249</sup> To achieve this, participants noted the importance of siting natural gas-fired generators in locations where the resource can meet electric needs for reliability while also easily obtaining fuel from the natural gas system.<sup>250</sup> Cross-market planning practices could allow electric market and natural gas participants to more easily coordinate regarding future expansion of infrastructure and advantageous siting locations and may provide greater insight into which facilities would be the most cost-effective to upgrade.<sup>251</sup> GEH Forum participants recognized the

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<sup>242</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 (Page 21, PJM, MISO, SPP & NYISO)

<sup>243</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 (Page 21, PJM, MISO, SPP & NYISO)

<sup>244</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 2, Aspen Environmental Group); GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 10, Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas at Austin); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 7, Industrial Energy Consumers of America); GEH Survey Response Compiled Data – February 27, 2023 (Page 56, Recommendation 1.c.33); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 101, Kinder Morgan)

<sup>245</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 (Page 27, PJM, MISO, SPP & NYISO) and December 5, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 4, PJM, MISO, SPP & NYISO)

<sup>246</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 10, Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas at Austin); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 96, New York ISO); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 16, NGSA)

<sup>247</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 96, New York ISO)

<sup>248</sup> December 5, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 4, SPP)

<sup>249</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 2, Aspen Environmental Group); GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 11, Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas at Austin); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 7, Industrial Energy Consumers of America); December 5, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 6, NGSA); January 12, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 5, NAESB GEH Forum Leadership); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 136, PJM; Page 160, Southern Company); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 99, NGSA; Page 100, NGSA)

<sup>250</sup> November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 5, PJM, MISO, SPP & NYISO); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 99, NGSA; Page 100, NGSA)

<sup>251</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 (Page 11, SoCal Gas and Page 21, PJM, MISO, SPP & NYISO); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 99, NGSA; Page 100, NGSA)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

impact state and federal regulators can have in developing stronger cross-market planning practices as both are involved in decision making processes related to resource permitting and siting.<sup>252</sup> Additionally, participants stated that integrated resource planning and other state or federal policies, such as those to meet climate or emission goals, are important drivers in long-term planning considerations by the electric and natural gas industries.<sup>253</sup> It was suggested that increased cross-market coordination could better support policy goals while helping to ensure the continued reliability of the natural gas and electric systems.<sup>254</sup>

GEH Forum participants also noted that it may be beneficial for long-term planning processes to evaluate the impact that more frequently occurring critical events will have on future resource and fuel availability.<sup>255</sup> Specific recommendations included evaluating the effect of extreme weather on congestion, reserve and ramping requirements, and system voltage performance.<sup>256</sup> It was stated that a recent report issued by the Western Electricity Coordinating Council, *The Year 2030 Extreme Natural Event Study Report*, contains recommendations that may be beneficial to consider in other regions of the country.<sup>257</sup>

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH Forum recommended that increased coordination between natural gas and electric market participants, especially in regards to fuel adequacy, as part of long-term planning will improve the reliability of both natural gas and electric systems and supported actions by state and federal regulators that could encourage greater collaboration by market participants.

NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 12						
Quadrant and Segment	Response Total		Response Balanced		Balanced Percentage	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>						
Producers	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
Pipelines	13	4	1.53	0.47	76.5%	23.5%
Local Distribution Companies	9	0	2	0	100%	0%
End Users	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
Services	5	1	1.67	0.33	83.5%	16.5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>						
Transmission	0	1	0	1	0%	100%
Generation	6	3	1.33	0.67	66.5%	33.5%
Marketers/Brokers	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	2	1	1.33	0.67	66.5%	33.5%
End Users	1	1	1	1	50%	50%

<sup>252</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 9 – 10, NGS&A; Page 12, PJM, MISO, SPP & NYISO; and Page 42, AGA); November 8 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 3, INGAA); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Pages 20 – 21, INGAA)

<sup>253</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 2, Aspen Environmental Group); GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 10, Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas at Austin); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 7, Industrial Energy Consumers of America and NGS&A, Page 30); GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 12, 2023 (Pages 15 – 16, NGS&A)

<sup>254</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Pages 20 – 21, INGAA)

<sup>255</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 20, Process Gas Consumers Group & American Forest Paper Association); November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 3, Black Hills Energy); and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 299, EPSA)

<sup>256</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 (Page 26, SoCal Gas)

<sup>257</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 (Page 26, SoCal Gas)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

Independent Grid Operators/Planners	7	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9.66</b>	<b>3.34</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>26%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Total:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>0.75</b>	<b>62.5%</b>	<b>37.5%</b>



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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***Recommendation 13:*** *The FERC, state public utility commissions, and applicable state authorities in states with competitive energy markets should consider whether market mechanisms are adequate to ensure that jurisdictional generators have the necessary arrangements for secure firm transportation and supply service and/or storage to avoid and/or mitigate natural gas supply shortfalls during extreme cold weather events, and if not, (a) determine whether non-market solutions are warranted, including funding mechanisms borne or shared by customers and (b) if warranted, adopt such non-market solutions.*

As part of the request made by FERC and NERC staff, the forum was asked to consider a study<sup>258</sup> concerning whether federal and state entities should enact measures to address natural gas supply shortfalls during extreme cold weather events by requiring market/public funding for firm transportation and supply and/or investment in storage contracts.<sup>259</sup> As part of these discussions, it was stated that natural gas-fired generators utilize non-firm services and products to meet just-in-time procurement needs but that growing constraints and increases in natural gas pipeline capacity usage may impact the flexibility of the natural gas system to reliably provide these types of services in the future.<sup>260</sup> It was suggested that reliance on these services by generators operating in organized markets could be contributing to higher levels of reliability volatility<sup>261</sup> which may only increase given the trends towards electrification and the utilization of variable generation resources.<sup>262</sup> GEH Forum participants explained that economic barriers may be hindering natural gas-fired generators from utilizing firm service and storage options<sup>263</sup> and both natural gas and electric market participants supported consideration of steps to better facilitate cost recovery for firm fuel procurement and transportation costs, particularly through market-based solutions.<sup>264</sup>

In evaluating mechanisms to encourage firm fuel procurement and transportation, GEH Forum participants noted that economic incentives and non-performance penalties<sup>265</sup> must be balanced and suggested that as market needs and conditions continue to evolve, it may be necessary to re-assess traditional cost-benefit and risk-reward structures to help ensure continued reliability.<sup>266</sup> Participants explained that regional differences and the various market structures will likely require tailored solutions that may be best developed through individual market or regional processes coordinated between system operators, stakeholders, and the appropriate state and federal regulators.<sup>267</sup> It was noted that some ISOs and RTOs are currently undertaking stakeholder processes to evaluate mechanisms that could better support and incentivize firm transportation and fuel acquisition, such as resource adequacy or capacity accreditation requirements.<sup>268</sup> GEH Forum participants stated that ISO and RTO markets also may benefit from considering new or modified compensation frameworks and/or the creation of new market services or products.

Several participants noted that greater mitigation of the financial risks that are faced by generators operating in organized markets could encourage procurement of firm fuel supply and transportation services ahead of critical

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<sup>258</sup> FERC/NERC Presentation – August 30, 2022 (Page 16)

<sup>259</sup> FERC-NERC-Regional Entity Staff Report: The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (Page 234)

<sup>260</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 6, NGSA)

<sup>261</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 4 – 6, NGSA)

<sup>262</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 6, NGSA)

<sup>263</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 (Page 3, Aspen Environmental Group ; Page 4 and 15, NGSA; Page 10, Process Gas Consumers Group & American Forest Paper Association; Page 11, Enchanted Rock; and Page 12, INGAA); GEH Forum Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 250-251, Kinder Morgan); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 6, Reliable Energy Analytics; Page 7, Xcel Energy and Page 9, MISO)

<sup>264</sup> GEH Forum Survey Response Tabulations – February 27, 2023 (Page 75, Recommendation 3.a.1; Page 76, Recommendation 3.a.2; and Page 104, Recommendation 3.f.2)

<sup>265</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 2, LS Power)

<sup>266</sup> GEH Survey Responses Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 182, EPSA) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Pages 2 – 3, NGSA)

<sup>267</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 23, LS Power); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 30, LS Power); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 43, SPP)

<sup>268</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 7, NYISO and Page 8, PJM)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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events.<sup>269</sup> One potential solution identified by some of these participants was to couple advanced unit commitment processes with a guaranteed level of cost recovery for reliability, even if the generator is not dispatched.<sup>270</sup> While these types of compensation mechanism may increase costs for consumers, it was suggested that there is a net benefit when evaluated against the potential loss of human life and economic damages that can result from a grid failure.<sup>271</sup> Several participants proposed that the additional costs that would be incurred to implement the mechanisms described above should be absorbed or spread equally within a given region or footprint.<sup>272</sup> Cautions were expressed by others that this approach may present current market design and discrimination concerns.<sup>273</sup>

As part of discussions in this area, several ISOs and RTOs indicated that there are existing compensation mechanisms within organized markets to encourage the procurement of firm natural gas supply and transport and storage, either through indirect incentives or terms contained in Open Access Transmission Tariffs.<sup>274</sup> Some participants suggested that rather than the ability to adequately recover costs, the reason generators may not engage in long-term firm contracting practices is likely more attributable to the types of natural gas services that are offered.<sup>275</sup> For resources dispatched just a few times a year or with inconsistent fuel needs, it was suggested that long-term firm service offerings may not be practical or efficient. Recommendations were made by these participants to explore the creation of new types of natural gas products and services that better support the needs of natural gas-fired generators.<sup>276</sup> Further, in organized markets with state regulated rate caps and/or spending ceilings, wholesale electric market solutions alone may not be sufficient to provide adequate cost recovery.<sup>277</sup>

Several participants proposed that new market products or services should focus on reliability and preparation for critical events.<sup>278</sup> Some participants identified the Firm Fuel Supply Service developed by ERCOT and the Public Utilities Commission of Texas at the direction of the Texas Legislature to enhance reliability during extreme weather events as an example of a new service that could be beneficial for other markets to consider.<sup>279</sup> As explained by these participants, resources providing the Firm Fuel Supply Service receive compensation to acquire and retain access to firm natural gas transportation and supply as well as storage specifically for use during a weather emergency.<sup>280</sup>

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH Forum recommended the consideration of actions that could be taken at both the federal and state level to evaluate the need for market mechanisms or non-market solutions to improve reliability by ensuring adequate arrangements are in place to obtain firm natural gas supply and

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<sup>269</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 6, NGSA); GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 7, Xcel Energy); and February 2, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 2, Xcel Energy)

<sup>270</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 7, Xcel Energy); February 2, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 2, Xcel Energy); GEH Survey Responses Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 181, EPSA); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 13, INGAA)

<sup>271</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 5-6, NGSA) (quoting PJM Markets & Reliability Committee Meeting, Aug. 25, 2021. <https://pjm.com/-/media/committees-groups/committees/mrc/2021/20210825/20210825-item-05-2-natural-gas-and-electric-markets-problem-statement.ashx>.)

<sup>272</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 3, Aspen Environmental Group); GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 7, Xcel Energy) and February 2, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 2, Xcel Energy)

<sup>273</sup> GEH Survey Responses Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 187, SPP); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 3, NGSA)

<sup>274</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 12, MISO, PJM, SPP); October 21, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 6, MISO, PJM & SPP); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 10, MISO)

<sup>275</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 6, MISO, PJM & SPP)

<sup>276</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 6, MISO, PJM & SPP) and October 21, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 6, MISO, PJM, and SPP)

<sup>277</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Pages 48 – 49, MISO)

<sup>278</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 12, INGAA); September 23, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 2, NGSA); and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 229, EPSA)

<sup>279</sup> Supplemental Comments – December 5, 2023 (Pages 10 – 11, TPA) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 13, Kinder Morgan, Intrastate Pipeline Group and Page 78, TPA)

<sup>280</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 13, Kinder Morgan, Intrastate Pipeline Group)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

transportation and/or storage prior to and during critical weather events when demand is expected to rise sharply for both natural gas and electricity.

<b>NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 13</b>						
<b>Quadrant and Segment</b>	<b>Response Total</b>		<b>Response Balanced</b>		<b>Balanced Percentage</b>	
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Producers	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
Pipelines	15	4	1.58	0.42	79%	21%
Local Distribution Companies	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
End Users	5	5	1	1	50%	50%
Services	3	2	1.2	0.8	60%	40%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7.78</b>	<b>2.22</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Transmission	0	1	0	1	0%	100%
Generation	5	4	1.11	0.89	55.5%	44.5%
Marketers/Brokers	2	1	1.33	0.67	66.5%	33.5%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	3	0	2	0	100%	0%
End Users	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10.44</b>	<b>2.56</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Total:</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.71</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>85.5%</b>	<b>14.5%</b>



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

***Recommendation 14:*** *Applicable state authorities should consider the adoption of legislation or regulations or other actions to create a secondary market for unutilized intrastate natural gas pipeline capacity, including a requirement for intrastate pipelines to offer some minimum level of firm service and/or support bilateral agreements between end users. In instances where state authorities lack enabling authority to take such actions, the FERC should adopt regulations to achieve identical outcomes within its authority.*

As requested in the February 2021 Report, the GEH Forum spent significant time discussing potential state actions that could enhance reliability.<sup>281</sup> Participants stated that electric reliability is often dependent upon access to natural gas transportation and supply services as well as efficient management of firm natural gas pipeline capacity<sup>282</sup> but that unlike the interstate natural gas market, intrastate markets often lack a mechanism to facilitate the sale and purchase of unutilized capacity.<sup>283</sup> Participants proposed that the increased flexibility and liquidity a secondary market for capacity can create will enhance the reliability of intrastate natural gas systems and could have been of benefit to natural gas-fired generators during Winter Storm Uri.<sup>284</sup> Both natural gas and electric market participants supported the consideration of actions to create intrastate-specific secondary markets for capacity or better facilitate bilateral agreements between end users.<sup>285</sup>

Several GEH Forum participants stated that the interstate capacity release program established by FERC in 18 C.F.R § 284.8, along with the accompanying posting requirements in 18 C.F.R § 284.13, have created a level of transparency that helps to ensure effective use of capacity by providing a way for all market participants to transact for unused capacity.<sup>286</sup> GEH Forum participants also noted that wholesale natural gas market participants have the ability to engage in contractual arrangements to share or acquire capacity when needed, such as through multi-party capacity contracts or AMAs.<sup>287</sup> As suggested by GEH Forum participants, an intrastate secondary capacity market or capacity release program would provide natural gas-fired generators access to the same tools utilized by their wholesale market counterparts to help ensure performance when dispatched<sup>288</sup> while also incentivizing firm contracting practices by improving the economic feasibility of such transactions, especially for peaking units.<sup>289</sup> Additionally, the availability of a secondary market for capacity may encourage greater participation by natural gas marketers who can help provide additional market options to meet just-in-time procurement needs.<sup>290</sup>

Although there was general support by GEH Forum participants, some suggested that secondary intrastate capacity markets may be of minimal value. These participants explained that variations in market structure and design will impact the effectiveness and practicality of such a market,<sup>291</sup> especially in intrastate markets where a large number of

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<sup>281</sup> FERC-NERC-Regional Entity Staff Report: The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (Page 196)

<sup>282</sup> October 21, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Notes (Page 3, TCPA) and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 49-50, TCPA)

<sup>283</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 13, MISO, PJM & SPP; Page 25, NGSAs; and Page 26, Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas at Austin); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 36, TCPA); December 5, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 3, Process Gas Consumers Group & American Forest and Paper Association); February 27 Comments – EPSA

<sup>284</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 13 and 21 – 22, MISO, PJM & SPP; Page 25, NGSAs; and Page 28, Process Gas Consumers Group, Industrial Energy Consumers of America, and American Forest and Paper Association)

<sup>285</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses Tabulation – February 27, 2023 Recommendation (Page 19, 1.b.7 and Page 61, 2.a.2)

<sup>286</sup> October 21, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 5, INGAA); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 33, INGAA); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 39 – 41 and 53 – 55, INGAA; Page 55, New England LDC Group; and Pages 56 – 57, AGA)

<sup>287</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 47 – 48, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group and Pages 49 – 51, NGSAs)

<sup>288</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 22, PJM, MISO, SPP & NYISO and Page 36, TCPA); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 56, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group)

<sup>289</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 36, TCPA); GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 15, TCPA); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 39, INGAA)

<sup>290</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 19, NGSAs); GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 36, TCPA); and Supplemental Comments – December 5, 2022 (Page 5, NGSAs)

<sup>291</sup> April 4, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 5, Kinder Morgan) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Pages 1 and 9 – 10, Kinder Morgan Intrastate Pipeline Group; Page 10, AGA; and Pages 75 – 76, TPA)





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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

natural gas end users already engage in transactions for bundled firm transportation and supply services.<sup>292</sup> Additionally, it was noted lack of participation in such markets could be an issue as intrastate natural gas customers are typically smaller entities that may not have the resources needed to manage their own natural gas transportation and supply needs.<sup>293</sup> Others stated that secondary capacity markets could be of particular benefit for states with customer choice regulatory frameworks as a mechanism to further foster competition and reduce consumer costs.<sup>294</sup>

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH Forum recommended that applicable state authorities should consider programs or actions that would better enable the creation of a secondary market for unutilized natural gas and support enhanced reliability through improved market transparency and competition.

NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 14						
Quadrant and Segment	Response Total		Response Balanced		Balanced Percentage	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>						
Producers	4	2	1.33	0.67	66.5%	33.5%
Pipelines	1	16	0.12	1.88	6%	94%
Local Distribution Companies	3	5	0.75	1.25	37.5%	62.5%
End Users	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
Services	3	5	0.75	1.25	37.5%	62.5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>4.75</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>47.5%</b>	<b>52.5%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>						
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	8	1	1.78	0.22	89%	11%
Marketers/Brokers	2	1	1.33	0.67	66.5%	33.5%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	1	2	0.67	1.33	33.5%	66.5%
End Users	1	1	1	1	50%	50%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9.78</b>	<b>3.22</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>						
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	0	6	0	2	0%	100%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>						
<b>Total:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.67</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>83.5%</b>	<b>16.5%</b>

<sup>292</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Pages 9 – 10, Kinder Morgan Intrastate Pipeline Group)

<sup>293</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Pages 9 – 10, Kinder Morgan Intrastate Pipeline Group)

<sup>294</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 149, 44 Farris and Page 149, TCPA)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

***Recommendation 15:*** *Applicable state authorities should consider establishing informational posting requirements for intrastate natural gas pipelines to enhance transparency for intrastate natural gas market participants regarding operational capacity data, similar to the reporting and posting requirements mandated by the FERC for interstate natural gas pipelines as part of 18 CFR §284.13. In instances where state authorities lack enabling authority to take such actions, the FERC should adopt regulations to achieve identical outcomes within its authority.*

Per the November 2021 Report, the forum considered possible state actions that could enhance the reliability of intrastate natural gas pipelines and other facilities.<sup>295</sup> The November 2021 Report noted that during Winter Storm Uri, wholesale electric market participants did not have the same level of visibility into the operations of intrastate pipeline operations as those of the interstate natural gas pipelines.<sup>296</sup> As part of discussions concerning intrastate markets, participants stated that high priority should be given to actions that could enhance transparency<sup>297</sup> and suggested reliability could be improved through the availability of increased information regarding intrastate natural gas pipeline operations.<sup>298</sup> There was support among some GEH Forum participants for the development of information sharing and reporting requirements by state regulatory bodies<sup>299</sup> similar to those required in the interstate market by the federal regulations adopted by FERC in 18 CFR 284.13.<sup>300</sup>

As identified by GEH Forum participants, greater transparency can facilitate improved coordination between natural gas and electric market participants as well as provide a better understanding of market dynamics and system operations.<sup>301</sup> Several participants suggested the use of EBBs by intrastate natural gas pipeline or similar types of information sharing requirements,<sup>302</sup> explaining it could provide better accessibility to operational information that may be needed by bulk electric system operators to help manage reliability during critical events.<sup>303</sup> There was also a suggestion that states may want to evaluate if there would be a benefit to adopting the NAESB WGQ Business Practice Standards supportive of the FERC regulations.<sup>304</sup> Additionally, some participants proposed expanding the applicability of FERC transparency requirements to Hinshaw pipelines and intrastate natural gas pipelines that are subject to FERC jurisdiction under section 311(a)(2) of the Natural Gas Policy Act.<sup>305</sup> Others noted that there may be limited statutory authority for FERC action in this area.<sup>306</sup>

A few participants stated that some intrastate markets have sufficient levels of transparency and further action in this area may not be necessary. As explained by these participants, there are states with existing transparency requirements for intrastate natural gas pipelines and that since Winter Storm Uri, some jurisdictions such as Texas, have taken action to further improve upon transparency through new legislative and regulatory requirements.<sup>307</sup> It also was noted that parties contracting with intrastate natural gas pipelines have the ability to specify information sharing requirements as

<sup>295</sup> FERC-NERC-Regional Entity Staff Report: The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (Page 196)

<sup>296</sup> FERC-NERC-Regional Entity Staff Report: The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (Page 67)

<sup>297</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 144-145, EPSA)

<sup>298</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 39, TCPA); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 23, Xcel Energy; Page 109, SPP; and Pages 144-145, EPSA); and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 12, New England LDC Group)

<sup>299</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 60, Recommendation 2.a.1)

<sup>300</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 39, TCPA); GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 51, Xcel Energy); and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 12, New England LDC Group)

<sup>301</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 39, TCPA) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 21, 2022 – Compiled (Page 26, Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas at Austin)

<sup>302</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 39, TCPA); GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 25, NGSa); and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 93, EPSA)

<sup>303</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 7 and 81, TCPA); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Page 7, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group and Page 23, Xcel Energy) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 12, SPP)

<sup>304</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 12, SPP)

<sup>305</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 64, Recommendation 2.a.5)

<sup>306</sup> June 16, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 4, Kinder Morgan Intrastate Pipeline Group)

<sup>307</sup> November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 8, TPA); December 5, 2022 GEH Forum Supplemental Comments, (Page 5, TPA); and April 4, 2023 GRH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 3, Kinder Morgan)



# North American Energy Standards Board

1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

part of terms and conditions and that some intrastate natural gas pipelines have voluntarily implemented additional transparency practices, such as the use of EBBs and information sharing protocols that utilize informational postings and/or direct communications with customers to provide notice of operating condition changes.<sup>308</sup> Additionally, some participants stated that the use of EBBs could introduce concerns regarding confidentiality.<sup>309</sup> Others noted that greater uniformity in reporting and posting requirements will provide consistency and improve efficiencies for those that interact with multiple intrastate markets and that increased access to commercial information will better enable contract negotiations between trading partners.<sup>310</sup>

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH Forum identified that the reliability of intrastate natural gas systems can be improved through greater market transparency provided by the availability of operational information from intrastate natural gas pipelines and supported state action to consider adoption of informational posting requirements similar to those applicable to interstate natural gas pipelines. Additionally, GEH Forum leadership supported FERC consideration regarding its authority to take regulatory action in this area.

NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 15						
Quadrant and Segment	Response Total		Response Balanced		Balanced Percentage	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>						
Producers	4	2	1.33	0.67	66.5%	33.5%
Pipelines	1	16	0.12	1.88	6%	94%
Local Distribution Companies	5	3	1.25	0.75	62.5%	37.5%
End Users	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
Services	5	3	1.25	0.75	62.5%	37.5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>5.75</b>	<b>4.25</b>	<b>57.5%</b>	<b>42.5%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>						
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	9	0	2	0	100%	0%
Marketers/Brokers	3	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	2	1	1.33	0.67	66.5%	33.5%
End Users	3	1	1.5	0.5	75%	25%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11.83</b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>						
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--

<sup>308</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023 (Pages 12 – 13, Kinder Morgan)

<sup>309</sup> December 5, 2022 GEH Forum Supplemental Comments, (Page 5, TPA) and December 5, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 3, TPA)

<sup>310</sup> December 5, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 4, TCPA) and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 7 and 81, TCPA and Page 144, SPP);



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

Gas Market Interests	4	2	1.33	0.67	66.5%	33.5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4.33</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Total:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.67</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>17%</b>



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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***Recommendation 16:*** *Applicable state authorities should consider the development of weatherization guidelines appropriate for their region/jurisdiction to support the protection and continued operation of natural gas production and processing and gathering system facilities during extreme weather events, and require public disclosure concerning weatherization efforts of jurisdictional entities.*

As identified in the November 2021 Report, a majority of the natural gas production issues during the events of Winter Storm Uri, were attributable to weather and freeze-related issues<sup>311</sup> and included a recommendation that the forum consider programs that could encourage and provide compensation opportunities for natural gas infrastructure facility winterization.<sup>312</sup> The importance of these discussions within the forum were reinforced by the events surrounding Winter Storm Elliott, which GEH Forum participants stated highlighted the need to ensure adequate cold weather protections are in place for upstream facilities, even in regions with historically colder climates.<sup>313</sup> As noted by many forum participants, weatherization protections are foundational in ensuring reliability of the natural gas and electric systems as well as human safety,<sup>314</sup> and both electric and natural gas participants supported the consideration of strategies or requirements to weatherize natural gas infrastructure, including wellhead and processing and gathering systems.<sup>315</sup>

While some participants suggested that there may be mechanisms for FERC action to promote weatherization requirements for processing and gathering system facilities,<sup>316</sup> it was noted that state authorities may be better positioned to take action in this area.<sup>317</sup> In considering action regarding winterization guidance, participants stated that producing states may find it helpful to coordinate with federal regulators<sup>318</sup> and to evaluate the efforts undertaken by various state jurisdictional entities in surrounding areas.<sup>319</sup> The activities of the Texas Legislature to enact laws requiring weatherization of electric generation, natural gas, and transmission facilities as well as the subsequent action of the Railroad Commission of Texas to adopt weatherization rules for natural gas facilities intended to protect gas flow during critical weather events were specifically cited by several participants,<sup>320</sup> and it was noted that these requirements were in place during Winter Storm Elliott, which had a minimal impact on natural gas supply within the state during the event.<sup>321</sup> As an alternative to broadly applicable weatherization requirements or guidance, some participants proposed that it may be beneficial to consider a targeted approach that focused on critically important facilities or those located in key supply basins.<sup>322</sup> Additionally, it was suggested that transparency regarding the weatherization and performance of natural gas production facilities, such as through annual reporting, would be of benefit to natural gas purchasers.<sup>323</sup>

In discussing upstream weatherization protections, some participants stated that legislation or regulatory requirements may not be needed as owners and operators have incentive to take reasonable steps to weatherize facilities to protect revenue streams.<sup>324</sup> It was also noted that the costs of weatherization requirements may factor into business decisions regarding investments in new facilities and continued operation of existing facilities, especially if requirements would go beyond the actions deemed reasonably prudent by owners and operators.<sup>325</sup> Although some supported the consideration of economic incentives or cost recovery mechanisms for state actions to implement weatherization

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<sup>311</sup> FERC-NERC-Regional Entity Staff Report: The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (Pages 174 – 175)

<sup>312</sup> FERC-NERC-Regional Entity Staff Report: The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (Page 196)

<sup>313</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Xcel Energy, Page 3)

<sup>314</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 10, MISO, PJM & SPP) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 25, AGA)

<sup>315</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 297, SAFE)

<sup>316</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 19, AGA and Page 22, New England LDC Group)

<sup>317</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 3 – 4, MISO)

<sup>318</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 166, AF&PA and Process Gas Consumers Group)

<sup>319</sup> April 27, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 4, NGSA)

<sup>320</sup> April 27, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 4, NGSA)

<sup>321</sup> April 27, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 2, Kinder Morgan)

<sup>322</sup> October 21, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 2, Aspen Environmental and Page 2, Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas at Austin)

<sup>323</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 4, Xcel Energy)

<sup>324</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 18, NGSA and Page 20, Gas & Oil Association of West Virginia)

<sup>325</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 18, NGSA)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

requirements,<sup>326</sup> others expressed support for allowing the competitive markets to provide the necessary compensation.<sup>327</sup> Another concept proposed by some participants was the creation of a voluntary weatherization certification program.<sup>328</sup> Comments submitted as part of the GEH Forum record recommended that an independent entity facilitate the program and develop weatherization standards or best practices to easily identify natural gas suppliers that have proactively taken steps to help ensure a reliably available fuel supply during critical weather events.<sup>329</sup> It was noted that a certified winterized gas product would establish a market compensation mechanism for weatherization and could increase confidence in delivery to natural gas purchasers when obtaining fuel supplies.<sup>330</sup>

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH Forum identified that the reliability of natural gas and electric systems will be improved through greater transparency and weatherization protections that can help to ensure the availability of natural gas supply during extreme cold weather events and recommended state actions to confirm natural gas production and processing and gathering system operators and owners are taking appropriate steps.

NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 16						
Quadrant and Segment	Response Total		Response Balanced		Balanced Percentage	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>						
Producers	0	9	0	2	0%	100%
Pipelines	2	4	0.67	1.33	33.5%	66.5%
Local Distribution Companies	8	0	2	0	100%	0%
End Users	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
Services	3	3	1	1	50%	50%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>5.47</b>	<b>4.53</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>45%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>						
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	10	0	2	0	100%	0%
Marketers/Brokers	3	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	3	0	2	0	100%	0%
End Users	1	1	1	1	50%	50%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	6	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>						
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	2	0	2	0	100%	0%

<sup>326</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 18, NGSA) and April 27, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 3, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group and Page 4, NGSA)

<sup>327</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 19, AGA)

<sup>328</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 17 – 18, Kansas Corporation Commission) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 22, SPP)

<sup>329</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 17 – 18, Kansas Corporation Commission) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 22, SPP)

<sup>330</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 17 – 18, Kansas Corporation Commission) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 22, SPP)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	0	1	0	1	0%	100%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Total:</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.71</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>85.5%</b>	<b>14.5%</b>



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

***Recommendation 17:*** *Many generalized recommendations concerning resource adequacy and accreditation and market reforms to bolster reliability were offered throughout the NAESB GEH Forum activities; we understand, however, based upon information provided by representatives from the ISO and RTO segment, that steps are being taken within the organized markets to consider such reforms through their stakeholder processes. The GEH Forum endorses this evaluation of resource adequacy and accreditation requirements by all ISOs and RTOs and encourages the review of the Forum record*

The November 2021 Report asked the forum to consider if new factors should be incorporated into resource accreditation requirements such as the firmness of a generator's transportation and supply arrangements and/or the potential to create correlated outages.<sup>331</sup> Throughout the GEH Forum process, participants discussed potential improvements to the processes system operators utilize to ensure sufficient levels of capacity and reserves as well as efforts that are already underway by ISOs and RTOs to consider some of these proposals. In general, participants suggested that modifications that better assure generator performance during times of peak electric demand, including critical events<sup>332</sup> such as fuel procurement practices that encourage fuel firmness and fuel redundancy would be beneficial.<sup>333</sup> Proposals were also made to evaluate mechanisms that could foster greater competition in the procurement of generation resources<sup>334</sup> and to consider wider application of regional solutions like the Western Resource Adequacy Program.<sup>335</sup>

A number of specific recommendations were made that received various levels of support, such as consideration of fuel security as a capacity attribute,<sup>336</sup> enhancing capacity performance/pay-for-performance programs,<sup>337</sup> consideration of alternative service options that better value reliability, fast-ramping, and frequency attributes,<sup>338</sup> re-examining the duration of commitments in capacity auctions,<sup>339</sup> and developing accreditation requirements that better account for a generation resource's expected generation availability.<sup>340</sup> As part of GEH Forum discussions, several participants indicated that many of the proposed requirements that were made during the process may already exist or are being considered by ISOs and RTOs.<sup>341</sup> For example, as part of the GEH Forum process, NYISO provided that it is pursuing capacity accreditation efforts that emphasize firm natural as fuel supply and transport and/or dual fuel capabilities,<sup>342</sup> and PJM provided that it is working with stakeholders to identify potential reforms that include accreditation changes for natural gas-fired generators that focus on dual fuel capability, transportation and supply contractual arrangements, and historical unit performance.<sup>343</sup> Additionally, MISO noted that it is considering changes to accreditation processes to better reflect the capabilities and fuel security of a resource and recently implemented the use of seasonal resource adequacy requirements that factor for a generator's availability during extreme weather events using past performance.<sup>344</sup>

In consideration of the GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH Forum recommended it would be beneficial to consider modifications to resource adequacy and accreditation requirements that could enhance electric reliability, and

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<sup>331</sup> FERC-NERC-Regional Entity Staff Report: The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (Page 197)

<sup>332</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 7, NGSA) and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 226, Kinder Morgan)

<sup>333</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled (Page 8, Xcel Energy)

<sup>334</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 11, Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas at Austin)

<sup>335</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 2, Aspen Environmental)

<sup>336</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 93, Recommendation 3.d.1)

<sup>337</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 94, Recommendation 3.d.2)

<sup>338</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 95, Recommendation 3.d.3)

<sup>339</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 96, Recommendation 3.d.4)

<sup>340</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 97, Recommendation 3.d.5)

<sup>341</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 227, PJM; Page 227, Xcel Energy; Page 227, EPSA; Page 229, PJM; Page 230, Xcel Energy; Page 230, SPP; Page 231, Xcel Energy; Page 234, EPSA; and Page 234, SPP); Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 41, NYISO; Page 41, PJM, Pages 41 – 42, MISO; and Page 42, Energy) and May 17 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 5, SPP)

<sup>342</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 41, NYISO)

<sup>343</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 41, PJM)

<sup>344</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Pages 41 – 42, MISO)





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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

encouraged all ISOs and RTOs to consider the comments made as part of the record as well as continue to engage with stakeholders to evaluate specific proposals.

<b>NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 17</b>						
<b>Quadrant and Segment</b>	<b>Response Total</b>		<b>Response Balanced</b>		<b>Balanced Percentage</b>	
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Producers	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
Pipelines	14	1	1.87	0.13	93.5%	6.5%
Local Distribution Companies	9	0	2	0	100%	0%
End Users	9	0	2	0	100%	0%
Services	6	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9.87</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	10	1	1.82	0.18	91%	9%
Marketers/Brokers	3	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	3	0	2	0	100%	0%
End Users	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	6	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11.82</b>	<b>0.18</b>	<b>98.5%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	6	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Total:</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

## Recommendations for Studies

***Recommendation 18:*** FERC and NARUC should collaborate to conduct, fund, and/or direct efforts to study whether market-incentivized investments in strategic natural gas storage facilities are sufficient to address natural gas supply shortfalls during extreme cold weather events, and if the level of investment is sufficient to preserve such facilities for use during extreme cold weather events. The study should also explore whether public sources of funding are needed for investment to secure sufficient storage.

***Recommendation 19:*** FERC and NARUC should collaborate to conduct, fund, and/or direct efforts to study whether additional financial incentives for the natural gas infrastructure system, including infrastructure to provide additional firm transportation capacity, would help to address natural gas supply shortfalls during such events, and further support the Bulk Electric System's performance during extreme cold weather events.

***Recommendation 20:*** The U.S. Department of Energy or FERC should conduct, fund, and/or direct efforts to study, by region, whether there is adequate natural gas infrastructure in place to support new gas usage patterns affected by flexible gas generation resource requirements as the latter resources are increasingly called upon for more frequent and/or steeper ramping to balance the increased use of variable energy resources. This study should be conducted in conjunction with an industry advisory group made up of diverse interests to ensure broad engagement and support for study results that are credible and unbiased. Currently, there are no comprehensive regional assessments that examine whether regions have sufficient natural gas infrastructure to support new usage patterns of gas generators, yet this information is essential for policymakers to have so that they can make informed policy decisions and take steps to avoid any potential reliability and resilience risks that accompany the transition to a lower emissions energy future.

In addition to the topics identified for forum consideration as part of Key Recommendation 7, FERC staff and NERC staff also requested the forum consider the recommendations for studies included as part of Key Recommendation 24.<sup>345</sup> The November 2021 Report identified several areas of potential study, two of which are addressed as part of the above noted recommendations. The first is the consideration of possible investments in strategic natural gas storage facilities, which could be located to serve the majority of pipelines supplying natural gas-fired generating units, and preserved for use during extreme cold weather events. The second is the consideration of possible financial incentives for the natural gas infrastructure system necessary to support the Bulk Electric System to winterize or otherwise prepare to perform during extreme cold weather events.<sup>346</sup>

Throughout these discussions, there was broad consensus on the need for improvements to natural gas infrastructure. Several participants stated that the availability of natural gas storage coupled with availability of firm transportation can be of particular importance during critical events<sup>347</sup> and there were suggestions that it may be beneficial to add new natural gas storage facilities located along transmission and distribution systems<sup>348</sup> as well as increase firm natural gas pipeline capacity.<sup>349</sup> Additionally, participants explained that weatherization of natural gas infrastructure is of crucial importance to ensuring a safe and reliable supply of natural gas.<sup>350</sup> It was noted though that there may not be sufficient incentives to support the level of investment necessary to expand, modernize, and winterize natural gas infrastructure.<sup>351</sup> While some participants expressed a preference for market mechanisms,<sup>352</sup> there was strong support among all participants to evaluate any actions that could provide greater financial incentives in these areas.<sup>353</sup> A

<sup>345</sup> FERC/NERC Presentation – August 30, 2022 (Page 16)

<sup>346</sup> FERC-NERC-Regional Entity Staff Report: The February 2021 Cold Weather Outages in Texas and the South Central United States (Pages 234 – 235)

<sup>347</sup> September 23, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 5, Dominion Energy) and GEH Forum Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 257, PJM)

<sup>348</sup> October 21, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Pages 1 and 3 – 4, Southern Company Gas) and December 5, 2022 Supplemental Comments (Page 6, AGA)

<sup>349</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 (Page 2, INGAA) and October 21, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Chat (Page 3, Southern Company)

<sup>350</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Pages 18 – 19, AEP and Page 19, AGA)

<sup>351</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 (Page 15, NGSA); GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 (Page 2, INGAA); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 2, NGSA)

<sup>352</sup> GEH Forum Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 200-201, AGA) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 58, Xcel Energy and Page 63, Kinder Morgan, Intrastate Pipeline Group)

<sup>353</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 81, Recommendation 3.a.7; Page 84, Recommendation 3.a.10; and Page 104, Recommendation 3.f.2)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

specific suggestion stated that it may be beneficial to evaluate the recommendations included in the American Gas Foundation Study *Enhancing and Maintaining Gas and Energy System Resiliency – Areas of Focus and Change* that identify specific considerations for upstream and downstream investments to enhance the reliability of the natural gas system.<sup>354</sup>

Beyond the considerations in Recommendation 24, a preliminary survey conducted in February 2023 demonstrated widespread support from both natural gas and electric market participants<sup>355</sup> for a study that could evaluate regional needs regarding the level of natural gas infrastructure required to support new usage patterns for natural gas-fired generators.<sup>356</sup> As proposed by a GEH Forum participant, conducting an unbiased, data-driven assessment, potentially through U.S. DoE funding, to identify any natural gas infrastructure shortfalls could be useful for policymakers in determinations regarding investments and incentives for infrastructure buildout and to help ensure a smooth energy transition.<sup>357</sup> It was suggested that the study be conducted under the purview of an independent third-party such as the U.S. DoE, a National Laboratory, or NERC and involve a diverse group of industry participants to act in an advisory role to help ensure the integrity and credibility of the study.<sup>358</sup>

As decisions would need to be made by the parties responsible for directing, funding, and/or conducting these studies, the Chairs of the GEH Forum suggested that the proposals be voted on to gain insight into the potential level of industry support for action on the noted studies.

NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 18						
Quadrant and Segment	Response Total		Response Balanced		Balanced Percentage	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>						
Producers	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
Pipelines	14	3	1.65	0.35	82.5%	17.5%
Local Distribution Companies	9	0	2	0	100%	0%
End Users	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
Services	5	1	1.67	0.33	83.5%	16.5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9.12</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>						
Transmission	0	1	0	1	0%	100%
Generation	7	4	1.27	0.73	63.5%	36.5%
Marketers/Brokers	2	1	1.33	0.67	66.5%	33.5%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	3	0	2	0	100%	0%
End Users	1	1	1	1	50%	50%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>26%</b>

<sup>354</sup> December 5, 2022 Supplemental Comments (Page 44, AGA) and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 267, AGA)

<sup>355</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 112, Recommendation 4.3 and Page 114, Recommendation 4.5)

<sup>356</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 4, NGSA)

<sup>357</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Pages 50 – 52, NGSA)

<sup>358</sup> December 5 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 6, NGSA) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Pages 51 – 52, NGSA)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
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<b>Retail Energy Market</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1.43</b>	<b>0.57</b>	<b>71.5%</b>	<b>28.5%</b>

<b>NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 19</b>						
<b>Quadrant and Segment</b>	<b>Response Total</b>		<b>Response Balanced</b>		<b>Balanced Percentage</b>	
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>
Producers	6	0	2	0	100%	0%
Pipelines	17	2	1.79	0.21	89.5%	10.5%
Local Distribution Companies	9	0	2	0	100%	0%
End Users	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
Services	7	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9.59</b>	<b>0.41</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>
Transmission	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Generation	9	1	1.8	0.2	90%	10%
Marketers/Brokers	2	1	1.33	0.67	66.5%	33.5%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	3	1	1.5	0.5	75%	25%
End Users	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	5	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11.63</b>	<b>1.37</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	6	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>



# North American Energy Standards Board

1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
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<b>Total:</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>
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<b>NAESB Balanced Voting Results – Recommendation 20</b>						
<b>Quadrant and Segment</b>	<b>Response Total</b>		<b>Response Balanced</b>		<b>Balanced Percentage</b>	
	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Oppose</b>
<b>Wholesale Gas Market</b>						
Producers	6	0	2	0	100%	0%
Pipelines	16	1	1.88	0.12	94%	6%
Local Distribution Companies	10	0	2	0	100%	0%
End Users	9	0	2	0	100%	0%
Services	7	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9.88</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>Wholesale Electric Market</b>						
Transmission	1	0	2	0	100%	0%
Generation	10	1	1.82	0.18	91%	9%
Marketers/Brokers	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Distributor/Load Serving Entities	3	1	1.5	0.5	75%	25%
End Users	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Independent Grid Operators/Planners	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
Technology and Services	4	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11.32</b>	<b>0.68</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>Retail Energy Market</b>						
Electric Service Providers/Supplier	1	0	1	0	100%	0%
Electric Utilities	2	0	2	0	100%	0%
Electric End Users/Public Agency	--	--	--	--	--	--
Gas Market Interests	6	0	2	0	100%	0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Other Mkt Participant/Observer</b>						
<b>Total:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>



## **VI. Long Term Considerations**

Throughout GEH Forum discussions, participants stated that any recommendations or proposals to better support the ability of generators to obtain natural gas fuel supplies may have limited long-term impact without additional infrastructure.<sup>359</sup> As explained by GEH Forum participants, trends in electrification coupled with the growth in renewable resources<sup>360</sup> and the retirement of coal-fired generation,<sup>361</sup> likely mean there will be a greater reliance upon electricity produced by natural gas as a balancing resource.<sup>362</sup> In support, participants noted two recent studies, one conducted by the U.S. Energy Information Administration and another from an ISO/RTO that identified a continuing demand for natural-gas fired generation in the coming decades.<sup>363</sup> GEH Forum participants explained that a reliable, future natural gas supply is dependent upon sufficient infrastructure,<sup>364</sup> and it was noted that several factors may influence new buildout decisions, including securing adequate investment,<sup>365</sup> which can be influenced by federal and state policies.<sup>366</sup> Participants stated that given the growing constraints on the natural gas system and the timeline for infrastructure development and construction,<sup>367</sup> there is a need to consider actions that can better facilitate these processes.<sup>368</sup> A number of proposals were offered and there was considerable support to evaluate if there are opportunities to streamline the permitting and certificate process to help entities better manage any federal, state, and local procedures.<sup>369</sup> Comments from GEH Forum participants indicated that a number of the recommended considerations are currently being addressed through regulatory proceedings or as part of potential legislation.

Among GEH Forum participants, there was strong support to consider construction of additional natural gas storage.<sup>370</sup> Participants explained that utilization of storage often requires access to firm capacity which may also require new natural gas pipeline infrastructure.<sup>371</sup> Although there was high initial support from GEH Forum participants to consider expanding the integration of alternative fuels or LNG produced and stored behind the city gate,<sup>372</sup> as part of subsequent comments submitted as part of the GEH Forum record, participants noted that construction of LNG facilities may not be the most economically feasible option for many regions of the country.<sup>373</sup> It was also stated that additional LNG facilities may require new transportation infrastructure. While natural gas pipelines can deliver LNG, they may not be configured to receive and transport fuel from LNG facilities to end users.<sup>374</sup> Several GEH Forum participants stated that the financial risk in constructing new infrastructure often means that parties rely on market indicators of future revenue to signal the need for investment, such as advanced contractual commitments for natural gas transportation and supply.<sup>375</sup> As explained by participants, for a variety of reasons, natural gas-fired generators may not be entering into long-term contracts for firm natural gas supply and transportation.<sup>376</sup> Participants proposed

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<sup>359</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 8, Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas at Austin); October 21 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 5, INGAA); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 2, NGSA)

<sup>360</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 15 – 16, INGAA)

<sup>361</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 5, Industrial Energy Consumers of America)

<sup>362</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 4, NGSA)

<sup>363</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 16, INGAA) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 16, NGSA)

<sup>364</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – February 27, 2023 (Page 2, Securing America’s Future Energy)

<sup>365</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 9 – 10, NGSA)

<sup>366</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Page 2, LS Power and Page 10, PGC & AF&PA)

<sup>367</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 27, NGSA) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 (Page 2, INGAA);

<sup>368</sup> Updated GEH Forum Responses – May 12, 2023 (Page 2, INGAA)

<sup>369</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 85, Recommendation 3.a.11)

<sup>370</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 86, Recommendation 3.a.12; Page 87, Recommendation 3.a.13; and Page 106, Recommendation 3.f.4)

<sup>371</sup> September 23, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 5, Dominion Energy)

<sup>372</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 105, Recommendation 3.f.3)

<sup>373</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 24, NGSA)

<sup>374</sup> April 27 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 6, Kinder Morgan Intrastate Pipeline Group)

<sup>375</sup> September 23 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 2, NGSA) and GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Pages 208 – 209, INGAA)

<sup>376</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 15, NGSA) and GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 6, MISO, PJM & SPP)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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that there may be a need to evaluate alternative methods that could spur new investment,<sup>377</sup> such as legislation directing infrastructure buildout<sup>378</sup> or that otherwise ensures the existence of sufficient natural gas infrastructure to meet peak demand needs.<sup>379</sup> Additionally, some participants noted that wider recognition of the continued importance of natural gas as a bridge fuel could also signify the need for infrastructure buildout and help ensure adequate investments.<sup>380</sup> There was a suggestion that there may be a benefit in greater collaboration between stakeholders, regulators, and legislatures to ensure continued alignment of policies that are supportive of state and federal goals and reflective of the natural gas and electric system reliability needs.<sup>381</sup>

Participants also noted the pending legislation before the U.S. Congress that could provide greater certainty to the permitting and certification process for infrastructure, including reforms to the Clean Water Act and the National Environmental Policy Act.<sup>382</sup> Several participants suggested that this legislative action could help to promote greater efficiency by eliminating any inconsistencies that may exist and clarifying the intent of the legislation.<sup>383</sup> Additionally, participants noted that pending legislation may strengthen FERC's role in the permitting and certification process<sup>384</sup> which could facilitate greater interagency coordination or support regulatory guidance to streamline any overlapping state or federal processes.<sup>385</sup>

As part of the GEH Forum record, participants also stated that there are ongoing FERC proceedings regarding draft policy statements that could impact the permitting and certification process by modifying how the Commission makes determinations as to if new interstate natural gas transportation projects meet public convenience and necessity requirements under section 7 of the Natural Gas Act.<sup>386</sup> While there was support for the continued use of precedent agreements,<sup>387</sup> others noted that feedback from electric market participants regarding the types of resource capabilities that may be necessary to ensure electric reliability could demonstrate if there is a need for natural gas as a balancing resource.<sup>388</sup> Both natural gas and electric market participants supported the consideration of input from Bulk Electric System operators if FERC determines to broaden the criteria that will be considered in its evaluations.<sup>389</sup>

In consideration of GEH Forum record, the Chairs of the GEH Forum recommended actions to streamline infrastructure development and encourage investment are better addressed through other forums and encouraged the review of the comments made by GEH Forum participants by the applicable parties participating in these forums.

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<sup>377</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023 (Page 14, AF&PA and Gas Consumers Group); Updated GEH Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 61, AGA); and Updated GEH Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 58, Tallgrass)

<sup>378</sup> GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023 (Page 204, 44 Farris)

<sup>379</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – February 27, 2023 (Page 2, Security America's Future Energy)

<sup>380</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled (Page 4, NGSA); GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled (Page 10, Bureau of Economic Geology, University of Texas at Austin); and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 12, 2023 (Page 22, Reliable Energy Analytics)

<sup>381</sup> November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 4, LS Power); January 12, 2023 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Pages 5 – 6, SoCal Gas) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 12, 2023 (Page 22, Reliable Energy Analytics)

<sup>382</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Pages 15 – 16, NGSA and Page 21, INGAA)

<sup>383</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Pages 15 – 16, NGSA; Page 18, AGA; and Pages 20 – 21, INGAA)

<sup>384</sup> Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Pages 15 – 16, NGSA and Page 21, INGAA)

<sup>385</sup> GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled (Pages 41 – 42, AGA)

<sup>386</sup> November 8 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Page 3, INGAA)

<sup>387</sup> November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Pages 2 – 3, INGAA)

<sup>388</sup> November 8, 2022 GEH Forum Meeting Staff Notes (Pages 2 – 3, INGAA and SPP) and Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023 (Page 15, NGSA)

<sup>389</sup> GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023 (Page 82, Recommendation 3.a.8)



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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## **VII. Conclusion**

The twenty recommendations included in this report are intended to identify possible actions for consideration by specific entities that could be taken to improve coordination and/or strengthen the overall reliability of the natural gas and bulk electric systems as they work interdependently. NAESB would like to express thanks to Chairman Glick, and subsequently Chairman Phillips, and Mr. Robb for providing NAESB with the opportunity to support the industry by addressing Key Recommendation 7 of the November 2021 Report. Additionally, NAESB is extremely grateful for the time and expertise that the Chairs of the GEH Forum volunteered to shepherd the GEH Forum effort as well as the hundreds of individuals across the natural gas and electric markets that provided their perspectives and contributed to the process. NAESB has a long-standing, successful history of facilitating collaboration between the natural gas and electric markets to address complex coordination issues, and the organization will continue to be supportive of future related industry endeavors in any way that is determined helpful.





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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
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## NAESB Gas Electric Harmonization Forum Report Appendices

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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

## A. Voting Appendix

GEH Forum Recommendations and  
Voting Instructions:

[https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323recommendations\\_voting.docx](https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323recommendations_voting.docx)

GEH Forum Eligible Voters:

[https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323eligible\\_voters.docx](https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323eligible_voters.docx)

GEH Forum Full Voting Record:

[https://www.naesb.org/misc/geh\\_FullVotingRecord\\_072723.xlsx](https://www.naesb.org/misc/geh_FullVotingRecord_072723.xlsx)

GEH Forum Supplemental Comments  
on Votes:

[https://www.naesb.org/misc/geh\\_supplemental\\_comments\\_072723.docx](https://www.naesb.org/misc/geh_supplemental_comments_072723.docx)



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<b>B. Meeting Appendix</b>		
<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Notes, Meeting Recordings, Meeting Chats &amp; Work Papers</u>	<u>GEH Forum Surveys, Survey Responses &amp; Submitted Written Comments</u>
Aug. 30, 2022	Staff Notes: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh083022staffnotes.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh083022staffnotes.docx</a>  Meeting Recording: <a href="https://naesb.org/recordings/geh083022recording.mp4">https://naesb.org/recordings/geh083022recording.mp4</a>  FERC NERC Presentation: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh083022a1.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh083022a1.pdf</a>	
Sept. 23, 2022	Staff Notes: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh092322staffnotes.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh092322staffnotes.docx</a>  Meeting Recording: <a href="https://naesb.org/recordings/geh092322recording.mp4">https://naesb.org/recordings/geh092322recording.mp4</a>  Meeting Chat: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh092322chat.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh092322chat.docx</a>	GEH Forum Survey: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh092322w1.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh092322w1.docx</a>  GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh092322w2.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh092322w2.docx</a>  Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – September 14, 2022 – Compiled: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh092322a2.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh092322a2.docx</a>
Oct. 21, 2022	Staff Notes: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh102122staffnotes.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh102122staffnotes.docx</a>  Meeting Recording: <a href="https://naesb.org/recordings/geh102122recording.mp4">https://naesb.org/recordings/geh102122recording.mp4</a>  Meeting Chat: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh102122chat.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh102122chat.docx</a>	GEH Forum Survey: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh102122w1.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh102122w1.docx</a>  GEH Forum Survey Responses – October 10, 2022 – Compiled: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh102122w3.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh102122w3.docx</a>
Nov. 8, 2022	Staff Notes: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh110822staffnotes.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh110822staffnotes.docx</a>  Meeting Recording: <a href="https://naesb.org/recordings/geh110822recording.mp4">https://naesb.org/recordings/geh110822recording.mp4</a>  Meeting Chat: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh110822chat.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh110822chat.docx</a>	GEH Forum Survey: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh110822w1.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh110822w1.docx</a>  GEH Forum Survey Responses – November 1, 2022 – Compiled: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh110822w2.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh110822w2.docx</a>
Dec. 5, 2022	Staff Notes: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh120522staffnotes.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh120522staffnotes.docx</a>  Meeting Recording: <a href="https://naesb.org/recordings/geh120522recording.mp4">https://naesb.org/recordings/geh120522recording.mp4</a>	Nov. 8 Survey Supplemental Comments Submitted by TCPA: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh120522w2.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh120522w2.docx</a>  Nov. 8 Survey Supplemental Comments Submitted by NGS: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh120522w3.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh120522w3.docx</a>



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
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	Meeting Chat: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh120522chat.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh120522chat.docx</a>	Nov. 8 Survey Supplemental Comments Submitted by AGA: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh120522w4.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh120522w4.pdf</a>  Nov. 8 Survey Supplemental Comments Submitted by TPA: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh120522w5.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh120522w5.pdf</a>
Jan. 12, 2023	Staff Notes: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh011223staffnotes.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh011223staffnotes.docx</a>  Meeting Recording: <a href="https://naesb.org/recordings/geh011223recording.mp4">https://naesb.org/recordings/geh011223recording.mp4</a>  Meeting Chat: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh011223chat.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh011223chat.docx</a>  GEH Forum Work Paper: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh011223w1.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh011223w1.pdf</a>  PJM Presentation re Winter Storm Elliott: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh011223a1.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh011223a1.pdf</a>	
Feb. 2, 2023	Staff Notes: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh020223staffnotes.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh020223staffnotes.docx</a>  Meeting Recording: <a href="https://naesb.org/recordings/geh020223recording.mp4">https://naesb.org/recordings/geh020223recording.mp4</a>  Meeting Chat: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh020223chat.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh020223chat.docx</a>  GEH Forum Record – January 23, 2023: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh020223w2.xlsx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh020223w2.xlsx</a>  Summary of Comments by Topic Areas Identified by FERC and NERC Staff – January 23, 2023: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh020223w1.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh020223w1.docx</a>  Summary of Comments by Topic Areas Identified by FERC and NERC Staff – Revised February 2, 2023: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh020223a1.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh020223a1.docx</a>	GEH Forum Survey: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh020223w3.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh020223w3.docx</a>  GEH Forum Survey Responses – January 31, 2023 – Compiled: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh020223w5.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh020223w5.docx</a>
Mar. 3, 2023	Staff Notes: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh030323staffnotes.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh030323staffnotes.docx</a>  Meeting Recording: <a href="https://naesb.org/recordings/geh030323recording.mp4">https://naesb.org/recordings/geh030323recording.mp4</a>	GEH Forum Survey: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh030323w1.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh030323w1.docx</a>  GEH Forum Survey Responses – February 27, 2023: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh030323w2.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh030323w2.docx</a>



# North American Energy Standards Board

1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

<b>B. Meeting Appendix</b>		
<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Notes, Meeting Recordings, Meeting Chats &amp; Work Papers</u>	<u>GEH Forum Surveys, Survey Responses &amp; Submitted Written Comments</u>
	Meeting Chat: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh030323chat.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh030323chat.docx</a>	GEH Survey Response Compiled Data – February 27, 2023: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh030323w3.xlsx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh030323w3.xlsx</a>  GEH Survey Response Tabulation – February 27, 2023: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh030323w4.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh030323w4.docx</a>  GEH Survey Response Comment Submissions – February 27, 2023: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh030323w5.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh030323w5.docx</a>
Apr. 4, 2023	Staff Notes: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh040423staffnotes.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh040423staffnotes.docx</a>  Meeting Recording: <a href="https://naesb.org/recordings/geh040423recording.mp4">https://naesb.org/recordings/geh040423recording.mp4</a>  Meeting Chat: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh040423chat.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh040423chat.docx</a>  Correspondence from Michael Desselle, NAESB Board Chairman: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh040423w2.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh040423w2.docx</a>	GEH Forum Survey: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh040423w1.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh040423w1.docx</a>  GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh040423w3.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh040423w3.docx</a>  Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – March 31, 2023: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh040423a1.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh040423a1.docx</a>
Apr. 27, 2023	Staff Notes: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh042723staffnotes.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh042723staffnotes.docx</a>  Meeting Recording: <a href="https://naesb.org/recordings/geh042723recording.mp4">https://naesb.org/recordings/geh042723recording.mp4</a>  Meeting Chat: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh042723chat.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh042723chat.docx</a>	GEH Forum Survey: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh042723w1.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh042723w1.docx</a>  GEH Forum Survey Responses – April 24, 2023: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh042723w2.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh042723w2.docx</a>
May 17, 2023	Staff Notes: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh051723staffnotes.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh051723staffnotes.docx</a>  Meeting Recording: <a href="https://naesb.org/recordings/geh051723recording.mp4">https://naesb.org/recordings/geh051723recording.mp4</a>  Meeting Chat: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh051723chat.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh051723chat.docx</a>	GEH Forum Survey: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh051723w1.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh051723w1.docx</a>  GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 12, 2023: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh051723w2.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh051723w2.docx</a>  Updated GEH Forum Survey Responses – May 22, 2023: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh051723a3.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh051723a3.docx</a>
June 16, 2023	Staff Notes: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh061623staffnotes.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh061623staffnotes.docx</a>	



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
 Phone: (713) 356-0060, Fax: (713) 356-0067, E-mail: [naesb@naesb.org](mailto:naesb@naesb.org)  
 Home Page: [www.naesb.org](http://www.naesb.org)

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	Meeting Recording: <a href="https://naesb.org/recordings/geh061623recording.mp4">https://naesb.org/recordings/geh061623recording.mp4</a>  Meeting Chat: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh061623chat.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh061623chat.docx</a>  NAESB GEH Forum Chairs' Strawman Recommendations: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh061623w1.doc">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh061623w1.doc</a>  Argonne National Laboratory Presentation: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh061623w2.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh061623w2.pdf</a>	
June 29, 2023	Staff Notes: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923staffnotes.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923staffnotes.docx</a>  Meeting Recording: <a href="https://naesb.org/recordings/geh062923recording.mp4">https://naesb.org/recordings/geh062923recording.mp4</a>  Meeting Chat: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923chat.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923chat.docx</a>  NAESB GEH Forum Chairs' Strawman Recommendations: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923w1.doc">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923w1.doc</a>  Argonne National Laboratory Presentation: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923w2.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923w2.pdf</a>	Comments Submitted by P. Jagtiani, NGSA: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923w3.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923w3.pdf</a>  Comments Submitted by C. Glazer, PJM: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923w4.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923w4.docx</a>  Comments Submitted by J. Namazi, EQT Energy, LLC: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923w5.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh062923w5.pdf</a>
July 13, 2023	Staff Notes: <a href="https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323staffnotes.docx">https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323staffnotes.docx</a>  Meeting Recording: <a href="https://naesb.org/recordings/geh071323recording.mp4">https://naesb.org/recordings/geh071323recording.mp4</a>  Meeting Chat: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323chat.docx">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323chat.docx</a>  NAESB GEH Forum Chairs' Strawman Recommendations: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w1.doc">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w1.doc</a>	Comments Submitted by C. Burks, Big Data Energy Services: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w2.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w2.pdf</a>  Comments Submitted by A. Bradbury, American Exploration & Production Council (AXPC): <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w3.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w3.pdf</a>  Comments Submitted by B. Welch, MISO: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w4.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w4.pdf</a>  Comments Submitted by N. Bagot, Electric Power Supply Association (EPSA): <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w5.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w5.pdf</a>  Comments Submitted by C. Smith: Interstate Natural Gas Association of American (INGAA): <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w6.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w6.pdf</a>



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1415 Louisiana, Suite 3460, Houston, Texas 77002  
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<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Notes, Meeting Recordings, Meeting Chats &amp; Work Papers</u>	<u>GEH Forum Surveys, Survey Responses &amp; Submitted Written Comments</u>
		<p>Comments Submitted by C. Tipton, Range Resources – Appalachia, LLC: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w7.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w7.pdf</a></p> <p>Comments Submitted by D. Schryver, American Public Gas Association (APGA): <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w8.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w8.pdf</a></p> <p>Comments Submitted by P. Henderson, Marcellus Shale Coalition: <a href="https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w9.pdf">https://naesb.org/pdf4/geh071323w9.pdf</a></p>

\*CitiPower, L.L.C.  
CitiPower, L.L.C.  
37 Court Street  
P. O. Box 1309  
Whitley City, KY 42653

\*Burkesville Gas Company, Inc.  
Burkesville Gas Company, Inc.  
119 Upper River Street  
P. O. Box 69  
Burkesville, KY 42717

\*Martin Gas, Inc.  
Martin Gas, Inc.  
P. O. Box 783  
Hindman, KY 41822

\*Peoples Gas KY, LLC  
Peoples Gas KY, LLC  
375 North Shore Drive  
Suite 600  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

\*Jetta Operating Appalachia, LLC  
Jetta Operating Appalachia, LLC  
777 Taylor Street, Suite P-1  
Fort Worth, TX 76102

\*Greylock Conventional, LLC  
Greylock Conventional, LLC  
500 Corporate Landing  
Charleston, WV 25311

\*Big Sandy R.E.C.C.  
Big Sandy R.E.C.C.  
504 11th Street  
Paintsville, KY 41240

\*Farmers R.E.C.C.  
Farmers R.E.C.C.  
504 South Broadway  
P. O. Box 1298  
Glasgow, KY 42141-1298

\*John Horne  
Office of the Attorney General Office of Rate  
700 Capitol Avenue  
Suite 20  
Frankfort, KENTUCKY 40601-8204

\*Orbit Gas Transmission, Inc.  
Orbit Gas Transmission, Inc.  
1401 Spring Bank Drive, Suite 16  
Owensboro, KY 42303

\*Jackson Purchase Energy Corporation  
Jackson Purchase Energy Corporation  
6525 US Highway 60 W  
Paducah, KY 42001

\*Sentra Corporation c/o Sentra Resources LLC  
Sentra Corporation c/o Sentra Resources LLC  
112 Orchard Lane  
Tompkinsville, KY 42167

\*Orbit Gas Transmission, Inc.  
Orbit Gas Transmission, Inc.  
1401 Spring Bank Drive, Suite 16  
Owensboro, KY 42303

\*Hay Exploration, Inc.  
Hay Exploration, Inc.  
1544 Winchester Avenue, Suite 1108  
Ashland, KY 41101

\*Jakes Branch Gas Company, Inc.  
Jakes Branch Gas Company, Inc.  
P. O. Box 783  
Hindman, KY 41822

\*Atmos Energy Corporation  
Atmos Energy Corporation  
3275 Highland Pointe Drive  
Owensboro, KY 42303

\*Valley Gas, Inc.  
Valley Gas, Inc.  
401 S First Street  
P. O. Box 366  
Irvington, KY 40146

\*Bluegrass Gas Sales, Inc.  
Bluegrass Gas Sales, Inc.  
3620 Rockland Mills Road  
Center City, KY 42214

\*B&S Oil & Gas Company  
B&S Oil & Gas Company  
P. O. Box 155  
Harold, KY 41635

\*Irvington Gas Company, Inc.  
Irvington Gas Company, Inc.  
401 S 1st Street  
P. O. Box 55  
Irvington, KY 40146

\*Kentucky Power Company  
Kentucky Power Company  
1645 Winchester Avenue  
Ashland, KY 41101



\*Kenergy Corp.  
Kenergy Corp.  
6402 Old Corydon Road  
P. O. Box 18  
Henderson, KY 42419

\*South Kentucky R.E.C.C.  
South Kentucky R.E.C.C.  
200 Electric Avenue  
Somerset, KY 42501

\*Millennium Energy, Inc.  
Millennium Energy, Inc.  
951 Fairview Avenue  
P. O. Box 1118  
Bowling Green, KY 42102

\*Auxier Road Gas Company, Inc.  
Auxier Road Gas Company, Inc.  
2963 Ky Rte 321 North  
PO Box 408  
Prestonsburg, KY 41653

\*KYTX Oil & Gas, LLC  
KYTX Oil & Gas, LLC  
6423 KY 1232  
P. O. Box 569  
Gray, KY 40734

\*Blue Grass Energy Cooperative Corp.  
Blue Grass Energy Cooperative Corp.  
1201 Lexington Road  
P. O. Box 990  
Nicholasville, KY 40340-0990

\*Kentucky Frontier Gas, LLC  
Kentucky Frontier Gas, LLC  
2963 Ky Rte 321 North  
PO Box 408  
Prestonsburg, KY 41653

\*Natural Energy Utility Corporation  
Natural Energy Utility Corporation  
2560 Hoods Creek Pike  
Ashland, KY 41102

\*Clark Energy Cooperative, Inc.  
Clark Energy Cooperative, Inc.  
2640 Ironworks Road  
P. O. Box 748  
Winchester, KY 40392-0748

\*Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc.  
Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc.  
139 East Fourth Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45202

\*Matriks Energy, LLC  
Matriks Energy, LLC  
P. O. Box 1298  
Ashland, KY 41105-1298

\*Cumberland Valley Electric, Inc.  
Cumberland Valley Electric, Inc.  
Highway 25E  
P. O. Box 440  
Gray, KY 40734

\*Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc.  
Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc.  
139 East Fourth Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45202

\*Commercial Propane Service, LLC d/b/a Bright's  
Commercial Propane Service, LLC d/b/a Bright's  
160 Sulphur Springs Road  
Lebanon, KY 40033

\*East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc  
East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc.  
4775 Lexington Road  
P. O. Box 707  
Winchester, KY 40392-0707

\*Fleming-Mason Energy Cooperative, In  
Fleming-Mason Energy Cooperative, Inc.  
1449 Elizaville Road  
P. O. Box 328  
Flemingsburg, KY 41041

\*Meade County R.E.C.C.  
Meade County R.E.C.C.  
P. O. Box 489  
Brandenburg, KY 40108-0489

\*Inter-County Energy Cooperative Corp  
Inter-County Energy Cooperative Corporation  
1009 Hustonville Road  
P. O. Box 87  
Danville, KY 40423-0087

\*Nolin R.E.C.C.  
Nolin R.E.C.C.  
411 Ring Road  
Elizabethtown, KY 42701-6767

\*Natural Gas Services, LLC  
Natural Gas Services, LLC  
1544 Winchester Avenue, Suite 1108  
Ashland, KY 41101

\*Jackson Energy Cooperative Corporati  
Jackson Energy Cooperative Corporation  
115 Jackson Energy Lane  
McKee, KY 40447

\*Licking Valley R.E.C.C.  
Licking Valley R.E.C.C.  
P. O. Box 605  
271 Main Street  
West Liberty, KY 41472

\*Delta Natural Gas Company, Inc.  
Delta Natural Gas Company, Inc.  
3617 Lexington Road  
Winchester, KY 40391

\*Quality Natural Gas, LLC  
Quality Natural Gas, LLC  
P. O. Box 529  
Allen, KY 41601

\*Owen Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Owen Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
8205 Highway 127 North  
P. O. Box 400  
Owenton, KY 40359

\*Big Rivers Electric Corporation  
Big Rivers Electric Corporation  
710 West 2nd Street  
P. O. Box 20015  
Owensboro, KY 42304

\*Navitas KY NG, LLC  
Navitas KY NG, LLC  
3186-D Airway Avenue  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

\*Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc.  
Shelby Energy Cooperative, Inc.  
620 Old Finchville Road  
Shelbyville, KY 40065

\*Minerals Management Group, Inc.  
Minerals Management Group, Inc.  
5600 N May Avenue, Suite 295  
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

\*The Gas Group Inc.  
The Gas Group Inc.  
13517 Saddlecreek Drive  
Louisville, KY 40245

\*Salt River Electric Cooperative Corp  
Salt River Electric Cooperative Corp.  
111 West Brashear Avenue  
P. O. Box 609  
Bardstown, KY 40004

\*Core Appalachia Operating LLC  
Core Appalachia Operating LLC  
414 Summers Street  
Charleston, WV 25301

\*Forexco, Inc.  
Forexco, Inc.  
2122 Enterprise Road  
Greensboro, NC 27408

\*Grayson R.E.C.C.  
Grayson R.E.C.C.  
109 Bagby Park  
Grayson, KY 41143

\*Kentucky Utilities Company  
Kentucky Utilities Company  
220 W. Main Street  
P. O. Box 32010  
Louisville, KY 40232-2010

\*Troublesome Creek Gas Corporation  
Troublesome Creek Gas Corporation  
139 Pickett Lane  
P. O. Box 934  
Prestonsburg, KY 41653

\*Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc.  
Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc.  
290 W Nationwide Blvd  
Columbus, OH 43215

\*Louisville Gas and Electric Company  
Louisville Gas and Electric Company  
220 W. Main Street  
P. O. Box 32010  
Louisville, KY 40232-2010

\*Lindsey Enterprises, LLC  
Lindsey Enterprises, LLC  
105 Laurel Lane  
Pikeville, KY 41501

\*Taylor County R.E.C.C.  
Taylor County R.E.C.C.  
625 West Main Street  
P. O. Box 100  
Campbellsville, KY 42719

\*Louisville Gas and Electric Company  
Louisville Gas and Electric Company  
220 W. Main Street  
P. O. Box 32010  
Louisville, KY 40232-2010

\*Western Lewis-Rectorville Water and  
Western Lewis-Rectorville Water and Gas District  
8044 KY 3161  
Maysville, KY 41056-9344