##### December 3, 2019

**TO:** All Interested Parties

**FROM:** Caroline Trum, NAESB Deputy Director

**RE: WEQ Parallel Flow Visualization Effort**

On November 25, 2019, the WEQ Business Practices Subcommittee (BPS) voted out a recommendation in support of the Parallel Flow Visualization (PFV) enhanced congestion management process (2019 WEQ Annual Plan Items 1.a and 1.b). The PFV enhanced congestion management process is an effort within the Eastern Interconnection to improve upon congestion management procedures through the use of real-time data by the Interchange Distribution Calculator (IDC), the tool that assists reliability coordinators in the implementation of Transmission Loading Relief Procedure-related business practice and reliability standards. The recommendation proposes modifications to WEQ-008 Transmission Loading Relief – Eastern Interconnection as well as conforming changes to WEQ-000 Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Definition of Terms. The WEQ Executive Committee extended the formal comment period from thirty to forty-five days for this recommendation. As such, the formal comment period will conclude on January 13, 2020. The recommendation and any formal comments will be forwarded to the WEQ Executive Committee for consideration.

Throughout the PFV project, NAESB staff has been engaged in coordination efforts with EIDSN, Inc. leadership, which oversees management of the IDC tool, NERC Operating Reliability Subcommittee (ORS) leadership, and NERC staff. In June, EIDSN, Inc. provided to NAESB and NERC the EIDSN Parallel Flow Visualization Metrics Report 2019 (EIDSN Report) which evaluated the PFV related modifications to the IDC tool. As indicated in the report, the PFV enhanced congestion management process is working as designed by the standards and represents a considerable improvement over the current IDC tool methodology. In September, the NERC ORS met to review the EIDSN Report and determine if there were any reliability issues that should be addressed through standard modifications. During the meeting, the Chair of EIDSN IDC Steering Committee presented the committee’s endorsement of the report and conclusion that no modifications are needed to the PFV-related WEQ Business Practice Standards to address any reliability issues. NERC ORS leadership communicated this endorsement to the NERC Operating Committee during its meeting on September 10 – 11, 2019.

During the October 15, 2019 meeting, the WEQ Executive Committee reviewed the EIDSN Report and NERC’s reliability assessment of the PFV field trial and directed the WEQ BPS to complete standard development efforts. As communicated to the Commission in the July 23, 2019 PFV Status Report, drafted in coordination with NERC and EIDSN, Inc., should the WEQ Executive Committee adopt the recommendation, ending the full-staffing period, the standards will be submitted to WEQ membership for ratification. Any ratified standards will be incorporated into Version 3.3 of the WEQ Business Practice Standards.

Although the PFV field trial concluded on May 1, 2019, EIDSN, Inc. leadership has indicated to NAESB staff that the IDC-PFV parallel operations will continue through either industry implementation of the enhanced congestion management process or the project otherwise concludes. This will allow EIDSN, Inc. to continue to collect PFV-related data for benchmark purposes.

NAESB will continue to coordinate with EIDSN, Inc. and NERC in support of the PFV enhanced congestion management process.