



MEMO

TO: North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB)
FROM: Alok Pradhan, Associate Director New Applications & Data Communications
DATE: February 05, 2020
SUBJECT: Formal comments on the proposed changes for Version 1.8.4 of the NAESB E-Tag Specification and Schema

Open Access Technology International, Inc. (OATI) respectfully submits the following comments in response to the above cited NAESB e-Tag Specification and schema change currently posted by NAESB for formal comment.

Amongst the proposed changes to the e-Tag schema, OATI believes that the following changes were unintentional, and should be reversed:

1. The XML encoding has changed from “UTF-8” to “ISO-8859-1”.
2. The annotation is being altered in “GCACode” schema element (the <documentation> tag has been removed).
3. The annotation for the “LCACode” and “MOCCode” schema element has been removed.
4. All contents have been removed from the “AbsoluteStart” and “AbsoluteStop” schema elements.

OATI proposes the following additional changes to the e-Tag Specification:

1. The specification says “Hypertext Transport Protocol”, which is the incorrect definition of the HTTP acronym. This should be updated to “Hypertext Transfer Protocol”.
2. Sections 7.1.2.1 and 7.1.2.2 describe the use of the HTTP protocol itself, and not the underlying connections. As such, the title of these sections should say “HTTP Requests” and “HTTP Responses” respectively.
3. In sections 2.6.5.2 and 4.6.5.2, the specification says “HTTP connection”. This should be changed to “HTTPS connection”.
4. In section 7.1.1, the example URL should say “https”. Also, the reference to HTTP should be updated to HTTPS when used in the context of a connection.
5. As an option to items 3 and 4 above, a generic disclaimer could be added in section 1.4.4, which states - “The SOAP protocol is layered on top of the HTTP protocol. All references to HTTP in this document must recognize that all e-Tag messaging communication shall use HTTPS over a TLS secured connection.”