North American Energy Standards Board

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS RELATED TO THE NEW ELECTRIC INDUSTRY REGISTRY
December 2011

Who is going to run the new EIR?

The operation of the NAESB registry will be performed by several parties, each of which having a designated area of responsibility. These parties are:

NAESB:

- Performs the background verification and authorizes admission of new applicants to the system.
- Provides authorization of and registration data for certificate authorities.
- Authorizes System Administrators to change certain shared registration data. Authorizes changes in the registry approval process.
- Approves publication policy.
- Instructs System Administrators to perform unscheduled publications.
- Executes approval actions as required by the approval process

NERC:

- Verifies credentials of certain types of participants and executes approval actions as required by the approval process.

OATI:

- Performs system administration functions in managing system hardware and software.
- Investigates potential software issues reported by participants and NAESB.
- Implements changes in certain non-participant specific data objects per NAESB request and authorization.
- Modifies publication schedule per NAESB instruction.
- Performs unscheduled registry publications per NAESB instruction.
- Trains participants per arrangement with NAESB.
- Executes approval actions as required by the approval process.

Data Providers:

- Entities that want to register their data in the EIR are responsible for its entry and maintenance in the system.
- Providers will work directly with Data Approvers to perform the timely approval of modifications.

Data Approvers:

- Entities with approval rights are responsible for performing timely approval actions on data objects that require their approvals.

Will the new EIR contain the WECC registry?
Yes, the EIR will replace the WECC registry in the third and final phase of EIR rollout. The WECC component will be added after the first two phases; the entity registration and TSIN replacement have been deployed and are operational.

What is the roll-out schedule? What are the roll-out phases?

- EIR is planned to be in operation at the beginning of the second quarter, 2012.
- NERC and NAESB have accepted the test plan and scheduled testing from January 17 through January 20, 2012 at OATI in Minneapolis, Minnesota with variance correction scheduled for the week of January 23 and re-testing scheduled for the week of January 30.

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- Communication meetings have been scheduled from early to mid-February to inform the industry on the project, training and what to expect in the coming months. These meetings will be held via webinar and face-to-face, to allow maximum participation. The exact dates and locations of the meetings will be posted shortly on the Registry page of the NAESB website.

- Training for the new Registry will be held from late February to mid-March. These meetings will be held via webinar and face-to-face, to allow maximum participation. The exact dates and locations of the meetings will be posted shortly on the Registry page of the NAESB website.

- It is anticipated that initial registration to the Registry will begin in mid-March.

What is the testing schedule?

- OATI has developed the user acceptance testing criteria, which has been approved by both NERC and NAESB. Acceptance testing has been scheduled from the afternoon of January 17 through the morning of January 20, to be held at OATI's office in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Industry participants that are interested in participating in this testing should contact Cory Cummings at the NAESB office. Variance correction is scheduled for the week of January 23 and re-testing has been scheduled for the week of January 30 for those that will participate in the acceptance testing.

What kind of training?

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Will training be by regions?

- There will be several physical locations where training will be conducted. The regions where training will be held is to be determined, but will be posted by the end of December.

How much will it cost each entity? Is the cost based on the various roles an entity may have?

- The initial Registration Fee is $250 USD per Entity Code/Entity Role pair that will cover the first year of operation. Subsequent renewal years will cost $150 USD per Entity Code/Entity Role pair.

What is an example of an entity code/entity role?

- Company Name/PSE Desk = Arizona Electricity Power Cooperative/AEPCA1 or AEPC/AEPCA.

What happens if you find yourself in a merger or company renaming themselves? Does that require a new entity code?

- No, the webRegistry system will be able to address this. If the name of a Parent Item changes, any child objects will then also change name commensurately.

Are digital certificates required?

- Yes.

Will the new EIR have bulk upload capability?
- Yes, a file upload capability will be provided for a few types of data when necessary to support bulk upload of data, and facilitate object registration (i.e., POR/POD, Source/Sink points, etc.).
- The total list of the data able to be uploaded utilizing the bulk upload feature:
  - Source/Sink points and POR/POD points

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- Paths, and adjacencies will also be added in later phases of the webRegistry production deployment plan (to be announced by NAESB in the near future)

Do currently registered entities have to re-register?

- Yes. This will be done to clean up any outdated entities that may currently exist in the TSIN.

Will registration be by region?

- No, registration will occur by entity role and object dependencies will be taken into account in a hierarchical fashion.

Do Reliability Entities (Regional Entities) have to register (for example, WECC, SPPE, etc.)?

- Yes, they will be initially registered by OATI. OATI will also register, as exceptions to the normal Entity registration process, the following entities and roles: NAESB, NERC, Reliability Coordinators and Market Operators.

Do you have to be a NAESB member to register in the EIR?

- No.

What is the process for expanding the types of registered data (a new role or a new set of data etc.)?

- NAESB will evaluate the need for including any new roles or objects in the Registry and will evaluate how to implement those with OATI.

What about existing registry data?

- All the data will be re-registered in the system.

During the development and roll-out of the new EIR , how will folks "stay-n-tune" on what's happening and when?

- NAESB is developing a page on its website to keep the industry up to date with the EIR development and implementation.

Will there be a single point of EIR information?

- NAESB will be the point of contact for any questions related to the EIR.

What is the time overlap to move data from TSIN to the new EIR?

- The EIR will replace the TSIN registry process and entity and role maintenance. However, the existing TSIN registry APIs (CSV and MDV files) will continue to be supported for 6 months after the changeover.

When will the existing TSIN shut-down?

- As soon as EIR is commissioned in production, EIR will be the only source of registry information and will totally replace TSIN. However, the current TSIN APIs will be supported by webExchange.

How many users from each entity can have access? Who does user administration?

- An entity can have multiple users. The entity will have a user administrator with the capability of creating additional users for his/her entity.

In the new EIR, will you be able to change your username or password?

- You will be able to change the password associated to your username. However, to modify the username, you must create a new user account.

Will each company have its own administrator who determines what individuals have access?

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- Yes, it will be the Company Administrator.

Are there different levels of access in the new EIR?

- Yes. The system is capable of allowing different levels of access.

Will there be a search/query capability?

- Yes, the system will have multiple ways to query data sets in the EIR by using different filter options available to the user.

If a user has a problem, who will they contact - OATI or NAESB?

- Any policy issues should be directed to NAESB, any technical issues should be directed to OATI.

Do you have to be an OATI customer to register with the EIR?

- To register in EIR you do not need to be a current OATI customer.