R97061

Gas Industry Standards Board
Request for Initiation of Standard for Electronic Business Transactions
or
Enhancement of an Existing GISB Standard for Electronic Business Transactions

1. Submitting Entity & Address:

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2. Contact Information:

Jim Buccigross, Legal Counsel
Gregory M. Lander, President

3. Description of Proposed Standard or Enhancement:

This request entails a modification to GISB standard 1.3.14 plus the necessary related minor technical additions.

Standard 1.3.14 states in part:
> "The standard quantity for nominations, confirmation and scheduling is dekatherms per gas day in the United States, and gigajoules per gas day in Canada."

Specifically, the proposal is to modify this standard so as to support a quantity of therms for use on LDC's and/or on other distribution systems where nominations occur behind city gates or where retail end-users will be nominating quantities.

Technically, this will require only an additional code (on an already existing data element) to indicate a quantity of therms, as opposed to dekatherms or gigajoules, on the nominations related data sets.

4. Use of the Proposed Standard or Enhancement:

This proposed standard would allow the GISB standardized datasets to be used for the nominations process on open-access LDC's and/or other retail end-user distribution systems. Generally these systems use the therm as a quantity measurement, so this enhancement will allow the standardized GISB nominations related data sets, along with the other GISB standards, to be used on these systems.

Note that with the addition to the standard language as proposed, this will not contradict the current standard for interstate pipelines, who will still use dekatherms.

5. Description of Any Tangible or Intangible Benefits to the Use of the Proposed Standard or Enhancement:

As described above, this proposed standard would allow the GISB standardized datasets and the related GISB standards to be used for the nominations process on open-access LDC's and/or other retail end-user distribution systems.

It will add flexibility to the nominations related data sets, without any impact on parties such as interstate pipelines, who are preparing for implementation or have already implemented. These entities will continue to use the dekatherm (gigajoule in Canada) as called for by the current GISB standard.

6. Estimate of Incremental Specific Costs to Implement Proposed Standard or Enhancement:

As noted, this should have no impact on parties who have already implemented for April, May and June of this year, therefore cost for these parties will be essentially nothing. Parties, such as LDC's, wishing to implement this in the future, need only add a therm measurement code value to an already existing data element to implement this change. To them, the one-time minimal cost of adding a single code to their translation table is far less than the cost which would be involved in changing their internal system(s) to deal with dekatherm quantities.

7. Description of Any Specific Legal or Other Considerations:

None, if standard language is modified properly.

8. If This Proposed Standard or Enhancement is Not Tested Yet, List Trading Partners Willing to Test Standard or Enhancement

As noted, the change would require only an additional code value on an existing data element, therefore little testing should be needed. Nonetheless, TransCapacity would be willing to undertake testing with any interested party.

The contact is: Mike Coombs, Product Leader
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9. If This Proposed Standard or Enhancement Is In Use, Who are the Trading Partners:

When this standard is in use, the trading partners would be open-access LDC's, their service requesters, and any third-party providers supporting this type of service offering.

10. Attachments

None.