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SGIPnews

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SGIP Governing Board Moves Forward on Key Efforts to Advance Interoperability Standards Framework

Nashville, TN -- The Governing Board of the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel (SGIP) today took steps that will accelerate progress toward the long-term goal of an interoperable Smart Grid. The Board's actions relate to the SGIP's process for identifying and publicizing interoperable standards, as well as the creation of a new Priority Action Plan related to home area networks. In addition, the Governing Board continued to coordinate and strengthen relationships with other standards-related organizations in both the United States and around the world. Since the SGIP's formal establishment in November 2010, the Governing Board has been building an organizational structure and consensus-based process for the SGIP that will enable the Smart Grid's many diverse stakeholders to identify, review, and coordinate interoperable standards. Now that several standards are nearing completion of that consensus-based process, the Governing Board discussed a draft document that describes the Catalog of Standards (CoS) process, including its purpose, scope, procedures, and management.

The CoS will serve as a compendium of standards, practices, and guidelines considered relevant for the development and deployment of a robust and interoperable Smart Grid. It is anticipated that the catalog will eventually contain hundreds of standards, recommended practices, and guidelines. The CoS will provide a key—but not exclusive—source of input to the NIST process for coordinating the development of a framework of protocols and model standards for an interoperable Smart Grid. The extensive information included for each entry will also be a very useful resource to utilities, manufacturers, regulators, consumers, and other Smart Grid stakeholders. The draft document will be posted online next week (http://collaborate.nist.gov/twiki-sggrid). Following a comment period of 10 business days, the Board will vote on the acceptance of the procedures described in the document.

The Governing Board welcomes comments and feedback from all SGIP members on the procedures described in the document.

Also today, the Governing Board received the report and recommendations of the Task Force on Home Area Networks (HAN TF). Following discussion, the Governing Board recommended the creation of a new, fast-tracked Priority Action Plan (PAP) to address requirements for developing a migration strategy from Smart Energy Profile (SEP) 1.0/1.x to SEP 2.0. This new PAP will generate requirements hand-in-hand with the relevant SSO, the ZigBee Alliance. Because of the urgency of this issue, the PAP process must be expedited and completed in approximately three months. The outcome will be requirements and guidelines for regulators, technologists, vendors, and utilities on how to handle the transition from SEP 1 to SEP 2 in several scenarios in a technology-independent way. The ZigBee Alliance will make the technology-specific recommendations based on those requirements. The SGIP's PAP process includes the review of issues related to cybersecurity and architecture.

In other action today, the Governing Board discussed comments that will be sent to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in response to the FERC Technical Conference on Smart Grid Interoperability Standards (January 31, 2011; Docket No. RM11-2-000) and the Supplemental Notice Requesting Comments (February 16, 2011). The comments provide the perspective of Board members on the roles and responsibilities of the organizations involved in the Smart Grid standards ecosystem, including:

- Standards-Setting Organizations (SSOs)
- The Smart Grid Interoperability Panel (SGIP)

- The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
- The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
- State Public Utility Commissions and Public Power/Co-op Boards

The full text of the comments will be available online next week (http://collaborate.nist.gov/twiki-sggrid).

In other discussions today, the Governing Board looked beyond the borders of the United States and considered issues related to international cooperation. In particular, the Board discussed a letter of intent to enhance coordination between the SGIP Governing Board and the Korea Smart Grid Standardization Forum (KSGSG). The letter is in the process of being finalized. The letter identifies priorities for collaboration, including sharing of:

- conceptual models
- use cases
- cybersecurity requirements and technologies
- requirements for testing and certification of interoperability standards compliance.

Collaborative activities suggested in the letter include information sharing, conference participation, and joint workshops.

Contact SGIP Leadership and Administrator at sgipgb.administrator@enernex.com

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