



# OEB Green Button - IWG

Independent (Industry Led) Working Group for the implementation of Green Button in Ontario

Co-Chairs: Eddie, Gary, Jeremy



# IWG - Agenda for Today

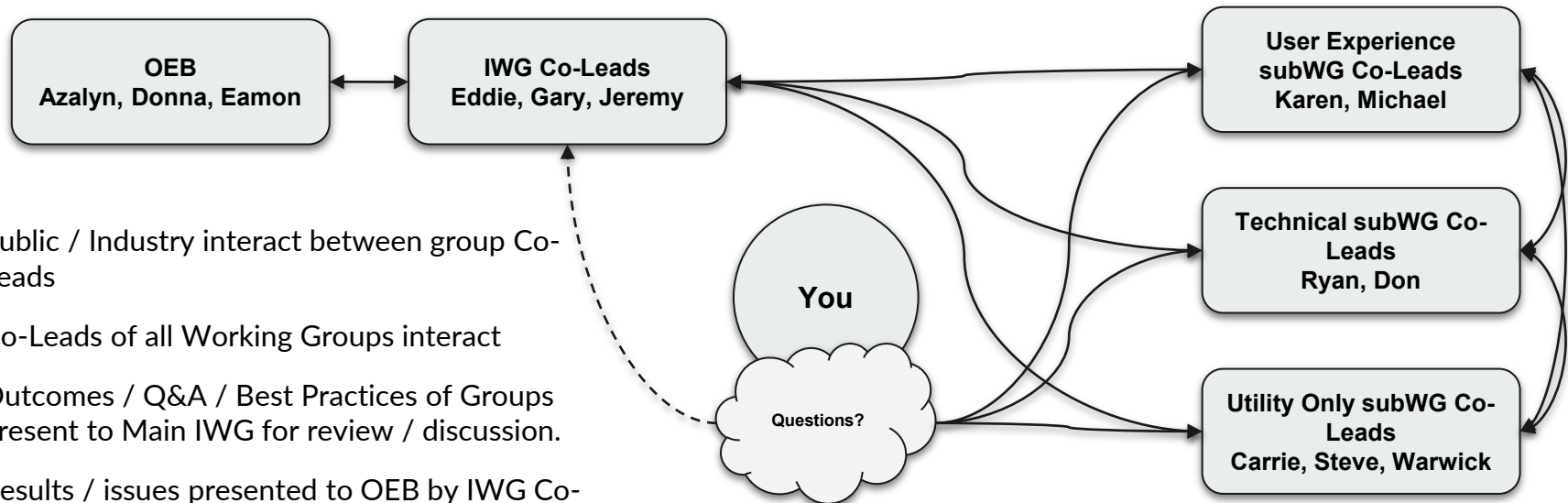
- OEB Staff Greeting
- Co Chairs - Eddie, Gary, Jeremy
- Administrative (how is this going to work) – 10 minutes
  
- Update ITWG - Sub Working Group - Mondays - 10 min Present / 10 min Q&A
- Update IUXWG Sub - Working Group - Mondays - 10 min Present / 10 min Q&A
- Update IUWG Sub - Working Group - 10 min Present / 10 min Q&A
  
- Review / Discuss Other Items - Inventory of Utility “My Account” ( if time Permits) - 20 min

# Administrative - General




- Meetings – As of April, meetings will be weekly for one hour (reduced by 30 minutes). Meetings will be driven by Sub- Working Groups
  - When Asking Questions please state your company name
  - Meeting Etiquette
  - Best Practices - Part of the IWG
  - This Week: Sub Working Group updates and Other priority items
  - Next Week: Sub Working Group updates and Other priority items
- 
- 19-½ months left

# Inter-Working group Communications



- Public / Industry interact between group Co-Leads
- Co-Leads of all Working Groups interact
- Outcomes / Q&A / Best Practices of Groups present to Main IWG for review / discussion.
- Results / issues presented to OEB by IWG Co-Leads



**Besides Utilities and Vendors to Utilities, what's NAESB's rule on when to obtain the standard?**

*' The NAESB copyright most definitely extends to third parties/vendors that would need access to the standard to produce Green Button / ESPI streams or files.*

*We have segments in each of our quadrants for service companies and many member service companies that provide support [to] the utilities, transmission providers, pipelines, local distribution companies, etc.*

*At the very least, if a company/ individual is offering a "product/service" that conforms to the standard, then we expect the company/individual to have valid legal access to the standard. '*

— Jonathan Booe, North American Energy Standards Board



**Examples of Third-Party repackaging of data into the Green Button / ESPI format:**

1. aggregating multiple accounts of data together into one ESPI stream/file,
2. combining electricity, natural gas, and/or water data into a single ESPI stream/file,
3. gathering data and adding (e.g.) temperature or cost information into the stream/file, or
4. collecting data via Connect My Data (CMD) and then providing it in a portal as Download My Data (DMD).



# **IWG Best Practices Template:** **Are not policy but we may make** **recommendations**

Recommendation:

Why?

1. X
2. Y
3. Z



# Independent Technical (ITWG)

## Sub - Working Group — Bill Focus (Mondays:)

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- Co-Chairs Ryan / Don
- Separate Agenda / Discussion from Co-Chairs
  - Discuss / Provide Best Practices recommendations, Q&A, Issues list





# User Experience (IUXWG)

## Sub - Working Group (Mondays:)

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- Co-Chairs Michael / Karen
- Separate Agenda / Discussion from Co-Chairs
  - Discuss / Provide Best Practices recommendations, Q&A, Issues list



## Active Best Practices known to be in review

**Recommendation:** LDCs where practical should try to prevent inadvertent termination of data flows due to meter changeouts and "legitimate" account number changes ( e.g. Utility merger or CIS system change).  
(Originated IUXWG)

**Recommendation:** Customer experience begins at the third party's website. Then the user is redirected to the utility to authenticate and authorize (one webpage each); and finally the user is redirected to the third party's website. ( Originated IUXWG )



# Independent Utility only (IUWG) Sub - Working Group

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- Co-Chairs Steve / Carrie / Warwick
- Separate Agenda / Discussion from Chair
  - Discuss / Provide Best Practices recommendations, Q&A, Issues list



# Discussions in the IWG



For IWG Discussions : IUWG - Lead

“To help to define what electricity and natural distributors collect and make available in the normal course, create an inventory of electricity and distributor data that is on bills and other locations (e.g., MyAccount), what is available in the standard, and identify any gaps”



# Best Practices Recommendation #1 IUWG:

Recommendation: Utility system work / Outage information Requirements is not within scope of the Ontario Green Button implementation.

## Why?

1. Outage information varies from one utility to the next, and not all utilities have software systems dedicated to the automated management of outage notifications
2. Outage information is provided to customers via existing channels, for example My Account customer portals and through social media.
3. Outage information is not identified within the NAESB ESPI standard



## Best Practices Recommendation #2 IUWG:

Recommendation: Providing Weather Data in Green Button format for Electric or Gas Utilities is not within scope of the Ontario Green Button implementation.

### Why?

1. Weather data is provided on some customer portals, but the utility is not the source of this data, and it is not stored in the Utility systems. It is generally a real time API interface with Pelmorex (The Weather Network).
2. Providing weather data would add complexity and cost to the Green Button solution.



## Best Practices Recommendation #3 IUWG:

Recommendation: Providing TOU to Tiered comparison in Green Button format is not within scope of the Ontario Green Button implementation.

### Why?

1. Bill comparison between Tiered and TOU rates is a complex data analysis process. The algorithm calculates the cost differential based on a customer's historical usage at the current Tiered and TOU rates.
2. Green Button data being provided will allow a third party to develop the same features in their application if this is something that would add value to their product.
3. Consumers have existing tools to see a bill comparison, through the OEB rate comparison tool, or via existing Utility customer portals



## Best Practices Recommendation #4 IUWG:

Recommendation: Under the Green Button Regulation, distributors are required to make energy usage and account holder information available in Green Button format. As a general principle, the information to be made available is information identified in the NAESB ESPI standard, and where the utility is the authoritative source of the data that is collected and made available to its customers in the normal course of its operations.

### Why?

1. Any data where the utility is not the source of the information should not be considered within scope of the Ontario Green Button implementation.
2. Data requirements should not necessitate a utility having to make changes to their operational practices.



# Independent Industry- Led FAQ's



- FAQs are provided to the Working Groups and Public for reference.
- FAQs are not an exhaustive list but are there to assist the industry.
- FAQs will be expanded on, added to, or changed from time to time as information evolves.
- FAQs are outputs from the IWG and should be considered as guidelines from the Industry.
- If a party sees that the FAQs are not correct or need revision, please contact the Co-Leads of the IWG.



# FAQs

1

## Do I need to Buy the Standard?

- If you are an Ontario Electric or Natural Gas Utility or a vendor using the standard. YES. Also see [NAESB Copyright](#)

2

## Where Can I find the Ontario Regulation?

- [O. Reg. 633/21: ENERGY DATA](#)

3

## Can we do Bulk Registration?

- For a single utility YES GB -related.  
Across utilities NO not part of the Standard or Regulation

4

## Where can I find OEB staff guidance related to Green Button implementation in Ontario?

- [OEB Green Button Implementation](#)



# FAQs

5

**When Do the Utilities have to have their systems Operational and Certified by GBA?**

- Regulation states November 1, 2023

6

**Does the ESPI (GB) standard handle Line Losses?**

- Yes, there are fields for Line Losses.

7

**Who needs to get Certified by the Green Button Alliance?**

- All Ontario Utilities within the Regulation. Completed by November 1, 2023

8

**How many options are there for Reading Quality (for the metered intervals)?**

- There are 19 options and more can be proposed, if needed.



# FAQs

9

## Is historical data required for former customers of a Utility?

- Utilities are not required to pass data on to previous customers even if they move within the Utility.

10

## How Many times do I as a Utility need to certify?

- If they are separate platforms or tested separately you will have to pay separately (same time and using the same engine)

11

## What is the cost of GBA Certification?

- DMD Cert+Test is US\$3,000.
- CMD Cert+Test is US\$3,200.
- The cost of DMD+CMD Cert+Cert+Test is US\$3,700.

12

## What consumption data will be made available by Utilities through GB: e.g. unadjusted (metered) or adjusted (after application of Total Loss factor)?

- The Standard does hold these data sets. Each Utility is required to determine what data is available



# FAQs

1  
3

## Is DMD different than existing Green Button download available to customers right now?

- Most legacy Ontario GB DMD was not certified by Green Button Alliance. Likely, it will not be complaint. Reminder, The Ontario Government requires version 3.3 of NAESB ESPI.

1  
4

## How much time do utilities have before sending responses to a third party for the request of data?

- The IWG is setting out Best Practices. These will be worked on through industry engagement and activities through Sub Working Groups

1  
5

## What is involved in GBA certification testing?

- Look on the GBA website <https://www.greenbuttonalliance.org/testing> for more information. It is part of Ontario's regulation requirement.

1  
6

## Do I need the NAESB v3.3 ESPI Standard to take part in the IWG or sub working Groups?

- No but you may need to purchase the Standard as required by regulation, law and or copyright requirements. The IWG is not the NAESB. We need to conform to the same rules as others (as required by laws and or Regulations)



# FAQs

1  
7

## Can Vendors be GBA Certified?

- The GBA certification process is for Utilities. A Vendor to a Utility can be GBA Certified but Utilities using their products must still get certified.

1  
8

## Where can I get Best Practices for Ontario Green Button implementation?

- The IWG is setting out Best Practices. These will be worked on through industry engagement and activities through Sub Working Groups

1  
9

## When Can Utilities become GBA Certified?

- The GBA will inform the market when full Ontario GBA certification is available. Will be reflected in these FAQs

2  
0

## Do Utilities have to supply the real-time account balance?

- This is not a requirement, it is sufficient to provide the information that was on the last published bill.



# FAQs

2  
1

## How will market wide “Best Practices” be produced and managed?

- The IWG will provide best practices. The outcomes of these best practices will be a result of a joint effort between the IWG and the Sub-Groups.

2  
2

## How do we deal with Privacy and Cyber Security as a Vendor or third party?

- Your requirements are unchanged. Please refer to Government policies, regulations and guidelines.

2  
3

## How do we deal with Privacy and Cyber Security as a Utility ?

- The Standard is capable of managing interaction between the Utility and the Green Button User. Utilities still take on responsibilities as normally required.

2  
4

## For bundled charges on the bill, do Utilities have to provide this or just provide what is on the bill (summed up)?

- Breakout is not a requirement, unless the Utility provides this information today in the normal course of business. Providing the breakout in an one-off discussion with a customer, is not considered normal course of business.



# IWG - Next Steps? Evolution of the IWG





**IWG**

**Thank you for your participation**

**To reach out to the Co-Chairs - Email us**

