



NEW ORLEANS | 2-5 APRIL 2017

Draft Policy 2017-2: Removal of Community Networks

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Problem Statement

- The Community Networks section of the NRPM has not been utilized since it was implemented in January 2010. A recent policy proposal, ARIN-2016-7, to increase the number of use cases, was abandoned by the Advisory Council due to lack of feedback. The policy should be removed to simplify the NRPM.

Background (1/2)

- **NRPM 2.11. defines a community network as:**
 - “...any network organized and operated by a volunteer group operating as or under the fiscal support of a nonprofit organization or university for the purpose of providing free or low-cost connectivity to the residents of their local service area. To be treated as a community network under ARIN policy, the applicant must certify to ARIN that the community network staff is 100% volunteers.”

Background (2/2)

- **NRPM 6.5.9 explains the rationale for special treatment of community networks:**
 - “While community networks would normally be considered to be ISP type organizations under existing ARIN criteria, they tend to operate on much tighter budgets and often depend on volunteer labor. As a result, they tend to be much smaller and more communal in their organization rather than provider/customer relationships of commercial ISPs. This section seeks to provide policy that is more friendly to those environments by allowing them to use end-user criteria.”

Policy Statement (1/3)

- **Remove section 2.11:**

- **2.11 Community Network**

A community network is any network organized and operated by a volunteer group operating as or under the fiscal support of a nonprofit organization or university for the purpose of providing free or low-cost connectivity to the residents of their local service area. To be treated as a community network under ARIN policy, the applicant must certify to ARIN that the community network staff is 100% volunteers.

Policy Statement (2/3)

- **Remove section 6.5.9:**

- **6.5.9. Community Network Assignments**

While community networks would normally be considered to be ISP type organizations under existing ARIN criteria, they tend to operate on much tighter budgets and often depend on volunteer labor. As a result, they tend to be much smaller and more communal in their organization rather than provider/customer relationships of commercial ISPs. This section seeks to provide policy that is more friendly to those environments by allowing them to use end-user criteria.

Policy Statement (3/3)

- **Remove 6.5.9 cont:**

- **6.5.9.1. Qualification Criteria**

To qualify under this section, a community network must demonstrate to ARIN's satisfaction that it meets the definition of a community network under section 2.11 of the NRPM.

- **6.5.9.2. Receiving Resources**

Once qualified under this section, a community network shall be treated as an end-user assignment for all ARIN purposes.

Community networks shall be eligible under this section only for IPv6 resources and the application process and use of those resources shall be governed by the existing end-user policy contained in section 6.5.8 et. seq.

Community networks seeking other resources shall remain subject to the policies governing those resources independent of their election to use this policy for IPv6 resources.

- There are no special provisions made for Community Networks with respect to ASNs or IPv4. The current policy applies only to IPv6.
- If this policy passes, organizations previously eligible for resources under 6.5.9 are still able to obtain resources as an ISP.

Discussion

1. Why hasn't the Community Networks section of NRPM been used?
2. Are there networks that should qualify under "Community Networks" but do not because the definition in 2.11 is too narrow?
3. Will there be need for policies specific to Community Networks in the future?
4. Is any stakeholder group harmed by the removal of Community Networks from NRPM?
5. Is the current policy sufficient for Community Networks to obtain space without sections 2.11 and 6.5.9?
6. Is there support for removing all references to Community Networks in the NRPM?