Draft Policy 2013-5
LIR/ISP and End-user Definitions

Current Definitions

- **NRPM 2.4 Local Internet Registry**
  - *"An IR that primarily assigns address space to the users of the network services that it provides. LIRs are generally Internet Service Providers (ISPs)"*

- **NRPM 2.6 "End-User"**
  - *"An end-user is an organization receiving assignments of IP addresses exclusively for use in its operational networks"*

Draft Policy Text

- **2.4. Local Internet Registry (LIR) / Internet Service Provider (ISP)**

  The terms Internet Service Provider (ISP) and LIR are used interchangeably in this document. A Local Internet Registry (LIR) is an IR that assigns address space to the users of the network services that it provides. Therefore, LIRs / ISPs are organizations that reassign addresses to end users and/or reallocate addresses to other ISPs/LIRs.

- **2.6. End-user**

  An end-user is an organization receiving assignments of IP addresses exclusively for use in its operational networks, and does not register any reassignments of that space.

Issues Raised at ARIN 31

- **No current definition of ISP in NRPM**

- **Newer technologies do not clearly fit either category (e.g. cloud computing services, "infrastructure as a service" providers, VPN providers)**

- **Difficult to determine exactly who is an End user and who is an ISP**

- **With recent policy change to 3 month supply of IPv4 for ISPs, may be advantageous to be in the End-user category**

Questions for the Community

- **Should there be a clear definition of End-user and ISP in NRPM?**

- **Should staff determine whether an org is an ISP or an End-user or should the org be able to choose?**

- **Should an ISP be able to switch to become an End-user and vice versa thus allowing a different set of policy criteria?**

Potential Outcomes

1. Decide that this is not a significant issue

2. Harmonize ISP and end-user policies so that there is no distinction between the two

3. Add clear definitions of end-user and ISP from a technical perspective; delineate their technical characteristics

PUBLIC POLICY CONSULTATION

Discussion