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  - Next message: [arin-ppml] Weekly posting summary for ppml at arin.net
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The ARIN Advisory Council (AC) has requested that the following proposed editorial update to the Number Resource Policy Manual (NRPM) be posted to the community for its review.

The review period will close on 23 April 2016.

The AC provided the following statement:

Update "return" language for 8.2 M&A transfers:

"The policy experience report at ARIN 36 highlighted an issue in the current 8.2 Mergers & Acquisitions Transfer Policy. The current policy uses the phrase "work with the resource holder(s) to return...". The word "return" in this context is being misinterpreted by organizations as "revoke."

[https://www.arin.net/participate/meetings/reports/ARIN\\_36/PDF/thursday/jimmerson\\_policy.pdf](https://www.arin.net/participate/meetings/reports/ARIN_36/PDF/thursday/jimmerson_policy.pdf)

The goal of this policy is to clarify that returns are voluntary actions by an organization and ARIN does not revoke address blocks for under-utilization under Section 6 the current Registration Services Agreement (RSA).

<https://www.arin.net/resources/agreements/rsa.pdf>

Based on this position, the ARIN AC proposes that the following editorial change be made to the NRPM:

Replace current NRPM 8.2 paragraph:

"In the event that number resources of the combined organizations are no longer justified under ARIN policy at the time ARIN becomes aware of the transaction, through a transfer request or otherwise, ARIN will work with the resource holder(s) to return or transfer resources as needed to restore compliance via the processes outlined in current ARIN policy."

With the following paragraph:

"ARIN will proceed with processing transfer requests even if the number resources of the combined organizations exceed what can be justified under current ARIN policy. In that event, ARIN will work with the resource holder(s) to transfer the extra number resources to other organization(s) or accept a voluntary return of the extra number resources to ARIN."

*The process for editorial updates to the NRPM is found in Part One, Section 3.1, paragraph 3 of the PDP: "Changes to policy that are purely editorial and non-substantial in nature are outside the scope of the full Policy Development Process and may only be made with 30 days public notice followed by the concurrence of both the ARIN Advisory Council and ARIN Board of Trustees that the changes are non-substantial in nature."*