

Recommended Draft Policy ARIN-2017-8: Amend Community Networks

AC Assessment of Conformance with the Principles of Internet Number Resource Policy:

This proposal is technically sound and enables fair and impartial number policy by redefining and classifying community networks as an LIR that may receive a smaller than normal allocation of IPv6, a /40. Except for the allocation size and a restriction on making reallocations, community networks will function like any other LIR. Community networks may also qualify as a regular LIR without any limits on size or reallocations. This revision addresses all concerns raised, and there appears to be ample support for the proposal by the community.

Problem Statement:

The Community Networks section of the NRPM has only been used once since implementation in January 2010. Proposal ARIN-2016-7, to increase the number of use cases, was abandoned by the Advisory Council due to lack of feedback. Proposal ARIN 2017-2, to remove all mention of community networks from NRPM met with opposition by the community. Many responded that the definition of "community network" was too narrow, which could be the reason for lack of uptake.

In the discussion at ARIN 40, it was clear that more than just the definition of a community network needed revision and that community networks need to have allocations, not assignments. Additionally, community networks need to make reassignments to end-users in accordance with applicable policies.

Policy statement:

Replace section 2.11 with the following;

2.11 Community Network

A community network is deployed, operated, and governed by its users, for the purpose of providing free or low-cost connectivity to the community it services. Users of the network or other volunteers must play a primary role in the governance of the organization, whereas other functions may be handled by either paid staff or volunteers.

Rename section 6.5.9 and revise the last sentence as follows;

6.5.9. Community Network Allocations

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 a policy that is more friendly to those environments by allowing community network to receive a smaller allocation than other LIRs or commercial ISPs.

Community networks may also qualify under section 6.5.2 as a regular LIR.

Section 6.5.9.1 is not changing, but is included here for completeness;

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.

Replace section 6.5.9.2 and 6.5.9.3 with the following;

6.5.9.2. Allocation Size

Community networks are eligible only to receive an allocation of /40 of IPv6 resources under this section. Community networks that wish to receive a larger initial allocation or any subsequent allocations must qualify as a regular LIR, see sections 6.5.2 or 6.5.3 respectively.

6.5.9.3. Reassignments by Community Networks

Similar to other LIRs, Community networks shall make reassignments to end-users in accordance with applicable policies, in particular, but not limited to sections 6.5.4 and 6.5.5. However, they shall not reallocate resources under this section.

Comments:

Timetable for implementation: Immediate

Anything Else: The rationale for restricting community networks that receive resources through this policy from making reallocations is that a /40 is a tiny IPv6 allocation and it does not seem reasonable to subdivide such a small allocation into even smaller reallocations.

Also, the recommended size for reassignment is /48, to even the smallest end-users, and therefore a /40 only provides 256 such reassignments.

If a community network needs to make reallocations, maybe to other cooperating community networks in their area, they should apply as, or become, a regular LIR. As the smallest regular LIR, they would get a /36, allowing more than sufficient room to subdivide the allocation into several reasonable sized reallocations as necessary.