Draft Policy ARIN-2014-14:

Removing Needs Test from Small IPv4 Transfers

Problem Statement

Problem Statement: "ARIN staff, faced with a surge in near-exhaust allocations and subsequent transfer requests and a requirement for team review of these, is spending scarce staff time on needs testing of small transfers. This proposal seeks to decrease overall ARIN processing time through elimination of that needs test."

Policy Statement

Update sections 8.3 and 8.4

From: Recipients within the ARIN region must demonstrate the need for up to a 24-month supply of IPv4 address space.

To: For transfers larger than a /16 equivalent or for recipients who have completed a needs-free transfer in the prior year, recipients in the ARIN region must demonstrate the need for up to a 24-month supply of IP address resources under current ARIN policies and sign an RSA.

Discussion

Needs testing has been maintained for transfers largely because the community wishes to ensure protection against hoarding and speculation in the IPv4 market. This proposal seeks a middle ground between the elimination of needs tests for transfers altogether, and the continuation of needs tests for every transfer.

Pros

- Reduce ARIN staff processing time for small allocations

- Ease acquisition of small blocks (for some value of small)

- Ease perceived unfairness

- Increase WHOIS accuracy

Potential Cons

- /16 too big? /24 too small?

- How to assess success?

- Will WHOIS really be more accurate?

- That rule breaking behavior occurs is not, ipso facto, reason enough for legitimizing rule breaking behavior.