

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
4201 Wilson Boulevard
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22230

November 7, 2012



OFFICE OF THE
GENERAL COUNSEL

Mr. John Curran
President and CEO
ARIN
3635 Concorde Parkway
Suite 200
Chantilly, VA 20151

Dear Mr. Curran:

Thank you for your letter of October 18, 2012. I reviewed with interest the information you provided, and subsequently entered into a number of discussions with U.S. Government policymakers in order to insure that your views were factored into any further consideration of this matter.

I concur with your point that the National Science Foundation (NSF) does not speak for the U.S. Government on issues of Internet infrastructure and governance. Rather, such issues are properly within the purview of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, which determines the U.S. Government's position and represents the United States through its participation in the appropriate domestic and international processes. To be sure, the intent behind my August 30, 2012 letter to a private party was to make an observation and state a belief based upon NSF's historic role, not to communicate any final legal or policy position on behalf of the U.S. Government.

I hope this clarifies any misunderstandings, and I wish you and your organization all the best in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lawrence Rudolph".

Lawrence Rudolph
General Counsel

cc: Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
U.S. Department of Commerce