



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

8 September 2014

Andrew Merriam
Business Development Coordinator
Top Level Design LLC

Dear Andrew Merriam:

Thank you for your letter of 22 August 2014, regarding the timeframe for Community Priority Evaluation (CPE) results. We appreciate your comments, and we have posted the letter to the New gTLD correspondence page (<https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/merriam-to-weinstein-22aug14-en.pdf>).

As you noted, we have recently revised the CPE FAQ and increased the estimated timeline for an evaluation from two to three months, to three to four months (<http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/applicants/cpe/faqs-13aug14-en.pdf>). These updates reflect the lessons learned by CPE Operations, and the timeline published is the target duration for the evaluation.

While the evaluation panel is aware of these timelines, given the impact of a CPE result on all members of the contention set, final reports will not be rushed simply to meet the timeline. The CPE Panel is committed to providing an accurate evaluation and an evaluation report that clearly describes the rationale for the scoring of the applications.

We acknowledge that several of the current evaluations, including the two evaluations for .ART, have exceeded the three to four months' mark. One factor delaying the CPE process has been the high volume of correspondence and information in the public sphere related to these applications that needs to be analyzed and verified by the panel. The CPE Panel is working diligently to complete the assessments of all applications in this process. We expect several results will be released in September.



We hope that this information is helpful to you. For future questions regarding the status of an application, we encourage you to contact the New gTLD Customer Service Center at newgtld@icann.org.

Regards,

Russ Weinstein

Russ Weinstein
Sr. Manager, gTLD Program Operations