ICANN

Registry Services Evaluation Policy (RSEP) Request

January 17, 2020

Registry Operator
Monolith Registry LLC

Request Details
Case Number: 00948937

This Registry Services Evaluation Policy (RSEP) request form should be submitted for review by ICANN org when a registry operator is adding, modifying, or removing a Registry Service for a TLD or group of TLDs.

The RSEP Process webpage provides additional information about the process and lists RSEP requests that have been reviewed and/or approved by ICANN org. If you are proposing a service that was previously approved, we encourage you to respond similarly to the most recently approved request(s) to facilitate ICANN org's review.

Certain known Registry Services are identified in the Naming Services portal (NSp) case type list under "RSEP Fast Track" (example: "RSEP Fast Track – BTAPPA"). If you would like to submit a request for one of these services, please exit this case and select the specific Fast Track case type. Unless the service is identified under RSEP Fast Track, all other RSEP requests should be submitted through this form.

Helpful Tips

- Click the "Save" button to save your work. This will allow you to return to the request at a later time and will not submit the request.
- You may print or save your request as a PDF by clicking the printer icon in the upper right corner. You must click "Save" at least once in order to print the request.
- Click the "Submit" button to submit your completed request to ICANN org.
- Complete the information requested below. All fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required. If not applicable, respond with "N/A."

1. PROPOSED SERVICE DESCRIPTION

1.1. Name of proposed service.

Dropzone

1.2. Provide a general description of the proposed service including the impact to external users and how it will be offered.

This RSEP is being submitted by Monolith Registry LLC (the "Registry Operator") on behalf of the following top-level domain:

VOTE
VOTO

Registry Operator is seeking to facilitate the release of names to general availability by having a separate environment hereby known as "Dropzone". Afilias is implementing a Dropzone for its registries in order to develop a more orderly and efficient process for managing the demand for deleted domain name registrations on a daily basis.

The Dropzone is a separate system, apart from the main registry system that will manage, on a daily basis, the synchronized full release of domain names that have either: a) reached the end of their Redemption Hold Period (RHP), or b) become available after deletion during the Add Grace Period (AGP). Registrars will be able to use the Dropzone to access and register the list of deleting domain names for that day on a first-come first-serve basis.

At the scheduled time pre-indicated to registrars, Afilias will open the Dropzone to allow registrars to begin registration of domain names scheduled for release that day. Unlike the current system that releases the domains one at a time, all domain name registrations will be permitted immediately in the Dropzone. Registrars will only be allowed to register domains listed for release that day as indicated by the daily published domain reports. This process will allow a fair and equivalent access for registrars to access the list of deleting, in the case of RHP, or deleted, in the case of AGP, domain names and will also provide a more efficient system release mechanism than the current domain delete process.

On a daily basis, following the close of the Dropzone process, the registry will execute an awarding process. This process will examine the list of domain names completing RHP or that became available during AGP to see if there was a request for the domain name by a registrar submitted in the Dropzone. If yes, the registry will create the submitted new registration(s) and charge the requesting registrar account for the relevant amount. If there are duplicate registration requests for the same domain name, the registry will look at the sequence of the requests that was submitted for that domain name and will pick the first domain create request that was submitted (first come, first serve). Note that should the registrar, who is first in the sequence to request the domain name, have insufficient funds available in their account at the time that the awarding process runs, the registry will automatically award the domain name to the next registrar that submitted the request for the domain name. If there are no registration requests for a domain name, either due to no request submissions by registrars or due to insufficient registrar funds for all submitted requests for a domain name, then the domain name will be released for open registration in the same manner as the current process. The create request/response is the same as a standard create and while the name is available in Dropzone the WHOIS will display "Not Found" to indicate that the domain name is available for registration.

1.3. Provide a technical description of the proposed service.

Description in section 1.2.

1.4. If this proposed service has already been approved by ICANN org, identify and provide a link to the RSEP request for the same service that was most recently approved.

N/A

1.5. Describe the benefits of the proposed service and who would benefit from the proposed service.

Registrars would have a more competitive chance at creating a name that is becoming available as they will be aware of exactly the time that it will become available.

1.6. Describe the timeline for implementation of the proposed service.

As soon as approved and once registrars are prepared for the changes that the service will require.

1.7. If additional information should be considered with the description of the proposed service, attach one or more file(s) below.

1.8. If the proposed service adds or modifies Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) languages or scripts that have already been approved in another RSEP request or are considered pre-approved by ICANN org, provide (a) a reference to the RSEP request, TLD(s), and IDN table(s) that were already approved or (b) a link to the pre-approved Reference Label Generation Rules (LGR). Otherwise, indicate "not applicable."

N/A

The most current IDN requirements will be used to evaluate a submitted table.

2. SECURITY AND STABILITY

2.1. What effect, if any, will the proposed service have on the life cycle of domain names?

No change.

2.2. Does the proposed service alter the storage and input of Registry Data?

The process to registrars for submission of EPP commands for the registration of the relevant domain names is modified slightly by requiring their connection to the Dropzone environment.

2.3. Explain how the proposed service will affect the throughput, response time, consistency or coherence of responses to Internet servers or end systems.

The Dropzone is a separate host, however because it is tied to the same registry infrastructure this service will have the same throughput, response time, consistency and coherence as the registry system itself.

2.4. Have technical concerns been raised about the proposed service? If so, identify the concerns and describe how you intend to address those concerns.

None.

2.5. Describe the quality assurance plan and/or testing of the proposed service prior to deployment.

Afilias has already implemented Dropzone for other TLDs.

2.6. Identify and list any relevant RFCs or White Papers on the proposed service and explain how those papers are relevant.

None.

3. COMPETITION

3.1. Do you believe the proposed service would have any positive or negative effects on competition? If so, please explain.

Registrars will have a more competitive chance at creating a name that is becoming available as they will be aware of exactly the time that it will become available.

3.2. How would you define the markets in which the proposed service would compete?

Registry services

3.3. What companies/entities provide services or products that are similar in substance or effect to the proposed service?

Public Interest Registry

3.4. In view of your status as a Registry Operator, would the introduction of the proposed service potentially affect the ability of other companies/entities that provide similar products or services to compete?

No.

3.5. Do you propose to work with a vendor or contractor to provide the proposed service? If so, what is the name of the vendor/contractor and describe the nature of the services the vendor/contractor would provide.

No.

3.6. Have you communicated with any of the entities whose products or services might be affected by the introduction of your proposed service? If so, please describe the communications.

N/A

3.7. If you have any documents that address the possible effects on competition of the proposed service, attach them below. ICANN will keep the documents confidential.

4. CONTRACTUAL PROVISIONS

4.1. List the relevant contractual provisions impacted by the proposed service. This includes, but is not limited to, Consensus Policies, previously approved amendments or services, Reserved Names, and Rights Protection Mechanisms.

Exhibit A (Approved Services) of the relevant registry agreements.

4.2. What effect, if any, will the proposed service have on the reporting of data to ICANN?

None

4.3. What effect, if any, will the proposed service have on Registration Data Directory Service (RDDS)?*

None

4.4. What effect, if any, will the proposed service have on the price of a domain name registration?

The fee associated with registering domain names via the Dropzone will be introduced at the same fee as the current domain registration. Please note that the associated fees will be debited from the registrar's existing account in the registry. No separate account is required for the Dropzone environment.

4.5. Will the proposed service result in a change to a Material Subcontracting Arrangement (MSA) as defined by the Registry Agreement? If so, identify and describe the change. Please note that a change to an MSA requires consent from ICANN org through the MSA change request process. The RSEP request must be approved prior to submitting the MSA change request.

No.

5. AUTHORIZATION LANGUAGE

5.1. A Registry Agreement (RA) amendment is required when the proposed service: (i) contradicts existing provisions in the RA or (ii) is not contemplated in the RA and, therefore, needs to be added to Exhibit A of the RA and/or as an appropriate addendum/appendix. If applicable, provide draft language (or a link to previously approved RA amendment language) describing the service to be used in an RA amendment if the proposed service is approved. If an RA amendment is not applicable, respond with "N/A" and provide a complete response to question 5.2.*

For examples or for IDN services, you may refer to the webpage for standard RA template amendments for commonly requested Registry Services.

"Registry Operator may offer the Dropzone service, which is a registry service that will manage the release of domain names that have reached the end of their life cycle.

The Dropzone is a separate system, parallel to the main EPP system, that will manage on a daily basis the release of domain names that have been purged for a short period of time, called

the drop zone. Any TLD-accredited registrars may use the Dropzone to register a recently-purged domain name.

On a daily basis, at the end of the drop zone period, the Registry will execute an awarding process, which will select, per domain name, the first domain creation request submitted (first come, first serve)."

5.2. If the proposed service is permissible under an existing provision in the Registry Agreement, identify the provision and provide rationale. If not applicable, respond with "N/A" and provide a complete response to question 5.1.

N/A

6. CONSULTATION

6.1. ICANN org encourages you to set up a consultation call through your Engagement Manager prior to submitting this RSEP request. This is to help ensure that necessary information is assembled ahead of time.

Identify if and when you had a consultation call with ICANN org. If you did not request a consultation call, provide rationale.

N/A

6.2. Describe your consultations with the community, experts, and/or others. This can include, but is not limited to, the relevant community for a sponsored or community TLD, registrars or the registrar constituency, end users and/or registrants, or other constituency groups. What were the quantity, nature, and results of the consultations? How will the proposed service impact these groups? Which groups support or oppose this proposed service?

Registry Operator has consulted with various registrars who have familiarity with Afilias' Dropzone environment and processed already implemented for other TLDs. Afilias sought

feedback on implementing Dropzone for these TLDs. Registrar feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

7. OTHER

7.1. Would there be any intellectual property impact or considerations raised by the proposed service?

None.

7.2. Does the proposed service contain intellectual property exclusive to your gTLD registry?

Yes. Afilias holds a patent on Dropzone.

7.3. Provide any other relevant information to include with the request. If none, respond with "N/A."

N/A.

7.4. If additional information should be considered, attach one or more file(s) below.

Affected TLDs

Current Registry Operator	Top Level Domain	Registry Agreement Date
Monolith Registry LLC	vote	2013-11-21
Monolith Registry LLC	voto	2013-11-21