

Technical Panel  
of the  
Nebraska Information Technology Commission

**Standards and Guidelines**  
**NITC 7-104: Web Domain Name Standard (New)**  
**Comments Received**  
[Staff Comments in Red]

Comment #1

**Webmaster Minutes from Wednesday 12/19/12 1:30 – 2pm, Lower Level of NLC in the Atrium**

A new Standards and Guidelines Policy came up for a 30-day comment period and the webmasters met to review the new policy. We went through the document step by step and came up with some suggestions (comments) for the Technical Panel of the Nebraska Information Technology Commission (NITC). Meeting attendee's comments appear below in blue.

[NITC 7-104: Web Domain Name Standard \(New\)](http://nitc.nebraska.gov/standards/comment/20121214/7-104_DRAFT_comment.html)  
[http://nitc.nebraska.gov/standards/comment/20121214/7-104\\_DRAFT\\_comment.html](http://nitc.nebraska.gov/standards/comment/20121214/7-104_DRAFT_comment.html)

**State of Nebraska**  
**Nebraska Information Technology Commission**  
**Standards and Guidelines**

NITC 7-104 (Draft)

Title	Web Domain Name Standard
Category	Network Architecture
Applicability	Applies to all state agencies, boards, and commissions, excluding higher education

1. Standard

1.1. The official Nebraska government domain is nebraska.gov.

1.2. All public facing domains shall be registered as at least a third-level domain within the nebraska.gov domain. The third level domain name shall uniquely identify the state agency or service. In addition to nebraska.gov, the domain ne.gov may be registered as an alternate domain resolving to the corresponding nebraska.gov domain name.

Please remove the word "resolving".

[Staff Comment: Recommend the following change: In Section 1.2, strike the word "resolving".]

We talked about the legacy domain of state.ne.us and would like to request that these domain names be supported in perpetuity.

[Staff Comment: Recommend the following change: In Section 1.4 below, insert the following new sentence at the end of the section, “The domain *state.ne.us* is a supported legacy domain which can serve content but which should not be publicly promoted.”]

1.3. All registered nebraska.gov and ne.gov domains shall adhere to all federal .gov domain registration requirements and guidelines.

1.4. Domains other than nebraska.gov and ne.gov may be purchased but cannot serve content or be publicly promoted.

This is more of a FYI to webmasters. Rick Becker informed us that any websites not conforming to the new standard may submit a waiver request in defense of their need to keep their non-standard URL: <http://nitc.nebraska.gov/standards/1-103.html>. The waiver can be submitted after the NITC 7-104 guideline has been adopted. Agencies can forward the waiver request to the [ocio.nitc@nebraska.gov](mailto:ocio.nitc@nebraska.gov) and they will make sure it gets to the appropriate work group.

1.5. Nonconforming domains in existence when this standard is adopted will be exempt from the requirements in Section 1.4 until December 31, 2014.

## 2. Purpose

The purpose of this standard is to provide for consistent domain names for state government websites.

## 3. References

3.1. Federal .GOV Domain Name Requirements and Guidelines: <https://www.dotgov.gov/>

Rick, I hope this is suitable as “comment” from the webmasters group.

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Janet Greser  
State of Nebraska Webmasters Chair  
Nebraska Library Commission

Comment #2

Rick,

I’ve contacted our administration and our website service provider, Firespring, and we don’t have any issue with the proposed policy NITC 7-104 as it relates to changing our website domain name.

I am curious if there would be any impact on two online services we use in relation to our constituent programming. We use these third party services for grants and program application processing. Constituents sign onto these services to upload program and grant application materials, which we administer. We can brand the

portals for our use to our identity, but the site domains remain in the third party service provider names. Is there any issue with this type of arrangement?

Thanks,

**JD Hutton**  
**Artist Services and Communications Manager**  
**Nebraska Arts Council**

[Staff Comment: As drafted, off-domain services would be exempt until December 31, 2014. After that date, a waiver would be required.]