Dear National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA):


AT&T has an overall comment about the pros and cons of deploying DNSSEC. AT&T has concerns about the policy of allowing validating stub resolvers the ability to accept responses marked "Bogus".

Over the past few years we have noticed an increase in the incidence of user warnings that the certificate associated with a particular web site they wish to visit or application they wish to invoke "has a problem" or "is expired". These warnings are typically accompanied by a "Do not proceed (recommended)" admonishment. Users learn very quickly that if they ignore the warnings they can access the desired web site with no ill effects (mostly, so far). So in effect failure to properly maintain certificates ends up teaching users that they can safely ignore security warnings. This is an extremely poor practice with obvious ramifications.

We are concerned that the same situation could recur with DNSSEC. What is the point of putting in place a complex system to ensure users get valid DNS responses if the end users themselves are allowed to determine the validity of the response? End users are ill-equipped to make such a determination.

We would be most interested in discussions on this topic. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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