

## **Networking Planning & Policy Advisory Council (NPPAC) Recommendation to the Internet2 Board of Trustees**

**Recommendation:** The NPPAC reiterates our endorsement of the "Merger Principles" (Attachment A) and endorses the "Special Bylaw Provisions" (Attachment B) as approved by the NLR Board February 2, 2006. We recommend that these documents, in their current form, serve as the foundation to proceed with the necessary steps to finalize and approve a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to merge.

We recommend that work begin immediately on the MOA to be completed by March 1, 2006 and that a merger consultant be hired to assist in moving this process forward.

We recommend that the MOA include the commitment to the continued provision of Layer 3 Abilene-like service to all of the existing Abilene participants and to the access of more advanced services for all Internet2 members at fees to be determined by the NewOrg board.

NPPAC recognizes that, prior to the merger vote by the Internet2 Board, there will be completion of the appropriate technical and financial due diligence as part of the Board's final decision. During the same period Internet2 will also complete the selection of its members to the NewOrg Board and executive committee.

We look forward to our recommendations being considered as quickly as possible to consummate a definitive agreement that officially creates NewOrg no later than April 23, 2006.