

Email to Michael Dennis, sent 11/8/19

Topic: Request for Exceptions for Wisconsin LDPs

From: Howard Veregin and Richard Kleinmann, co-Chairs of WSRS2022

Dear Michael,

As a follow-up to our phone call of October 17, 2019, we are providing a written request for exceptions to the following two NGS SPCS2022 requirements for our statewide LDP system known as WISCRS

1. Projection axis scale specified to 6 decimal places or less for all zones
2. Latitude and longitude parameters specified to nearest whole arc-minute for all zones

and to confirm that if these two exceptions are granted in addition to the previously granted zone size exception, we will proceed with an NGS design submission for our LDP system using published WISCRS values for projection axis scale and latitude-longitude parameters (see [https://www.sco.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/WisCoordRefSys\\_June2015.pdf](https://www.sco.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/WisCoordRefSys_June2015.pdf))

As we explained in our August 15, 2019, letter to the NGS, and in our telephone conversation with you three weeks ago, Wisconsin is an early adopter and innovator when it comes to LDPs. The current statewide LDP system, called WISCRS, is an evolution of an earlier system that dates back to the 1990s. Currently, WISCRS is used by virtually every Wisconsin county government which, over the past three decades, have been the focus of heavy investment through the Wisconsin Land Information Program. WISCRS is also used by municipalities, regional planning commissions, land surveyors, the Wisconsin DOT, and is built into major software tools and the IOGP EPSG dataset.

It is our belief that the geospatial community in Wisconsin will be best served by the continuation of WISCRS into the NATRF2022 era. Significantly altering it to accommodate new design criteria would have financial impacts on county and state land information budgets and negatively impact how geospatial data are used and supported across the state. We believe that WISCRS can serve as a mechanism to facilitate adoption of NATRF2022 and to further NGS's national spatial reference system modernization goals. Therefore, we see mutual benefits in having WISCRS recognized by NGS.

For the many states that have not yet developed LDPs, NGS policy and procedures provide appropriate specifications for LDP design. However, in Wisconsin, a long-standing, widely-adopted design already exists. It will take time and effort to redesign the system to conform to every NGS requirement. Unlike most other states, Wisconsin has already made the financial investment necessary to develop an LDP system, and it would be difficult to make the case for additional funding in order to make changes to a system that has proven to work so well.

Given these considerations, we trust NGS will grant the two additional exceptions we seek.

This proposal has been approved by the Wisconsin Spatial Reference System 2022 Task Force (WSRS2022) formed in January 2019 under the auspices of the Wisconsin Society of

Land Surveyors (WSLS). WSRS2022 represents a broad coalition of geospatial professionals in Wisconsin, including federal, state, regional, county and local governments, as well as agencies, corporations and associations involved in the production and use of geospatial data. WSRS2022 meets the NGS's definition and criteria for a stakeholder group, and contains representatives of the state DOT, the State Cartographer's Office, professional surveying societies, state geospatial organizations, post-secondary institutions, and state and local offices that produce and use geospatial data.