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RPKI-Based Policy Without Route Refresh
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Abstract

A BGP Speaker performing RPKI-based policy should not issue Route Refresh to its neighbors when receiving new RPKI data. A method for avoiding doing so is described.

Requirements Language

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [BCP 14](#) [[RFC2119](#)] [[RFC8174](#)] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

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[1.](#) Introduction

Memory constraints in early routers caused classic [\[RFC4271\]](#) BGP implementations to not keep a full Adj-RIB-In (Sec. 1.1). When doing RPKI-based Route Origin Validation ([\[RFC6811\]](#) and [\[RFC8481\]](#)), and similar RPKI-based policy, if such a BGP speaker receives new RPKI data, it might not have kept paths previously marked as Invalid etc. Such an implementation must then request a Route Refresh [\[RFC7313\]](#) from its neighbors to recover the paths which might be covered by these new RPKI data. This will be perceived as rude by those neighbors as it passes a serious resource burden on to them. This document recommends implementations keep but mark paths affected by RPKI-based policy so Route Refresh is no longer needed.

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[2.](#) Related Work

It is assumed that the reader understands BGP, [[RFC4271](#)] and Route Refresh [[RFC7313](#)], the RPKI [[RFC6480](#)], Route Origin Authorizations (ROAs), [[RFC6482](#)], The Resource Public Key Infrastructure (RPKI) to Router Protocol [[I-D.ietf-sidrops-8210bis](#)], RPKI-based Prefix Validation, [[RFC6811](#)], and Origin Validation Clarifications, [[RFC8481](#)].

[3.](#) ROV Experience

As Route Origin Validation dropping Invalids has deployed, some router implementations have been found which, when receiving new RPKI data (VRPs, see [[I-D.ietf-sidrops-8210bis](#)]) issue a BGP Route Refresh [[RFC7313](#)] to all sending BGP peers so that it can reevaluate the received paths against the new data.

In actual deployment this has been found to be very destructive, transferring a serious resource burden to the unsuspecting peers. In reaction, RPKI based Route Origin Validation (ROV) has been turned off; and there have been actual de-peerings.

As RPKI registration and ROA creation have steadily increased, this problem has increased, not just proportionally, but on the order of the in-degree of ROV implementing routers. As ASPA ([[I-D.ietf-sidrops-aspa-verification](#)]) becomes used, the problem will increase.

[4.](#) Keeping Partial Adj-RIB-In Data

Ameliorating this problem by keeping a full Adj-RIB-In can be a problem for resource constrained routers. In reality, only some data need be retained.

When RPKI data cause one or more paths to be dropped, withdrawn, or merely not chosen as best path due to RPKI-based policy (ROV, ASPA,

etc.), those paths MUST be saved and marked so that later VRPs can reevaluate them against then current policy.

As storing these paths could cause problems in resource constrained devices, there MUST be a knob allowing operator control of this feature. Such a knob MUST NOT be per peer, as this could cause inconsistent behavior.

[5.](#) Operational Recommendations

Routers MUST either keep the full Adj-RIB-In or implement the specification in [Section 4](#).

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Operators deploying ROV and/or other RPKI based policies SHOULD ensure that the router implementation is not causing unnecessary Route Refresh requests to neighbors.

If the router does not implement these recommendations, the operator SHOULD enable the vendor's knob to keep the full Adj-RIB-In, sometimes referred to as "soft reconfiguration inbound". The operator should then measure to ensure that there are no unnecessary Route Refresh requests sent to neighbors.

If the router has insufficient resources to support this, it MUST not be used for Route Origin Validation. I.e. the knob in [Section 4](#) should only be used in very well known and controlled circumstances.

Internet Exchange Points which provide [[RFC7947](#)] Route Servers should be aware that some members could be causing an undue Route Refresh load on the Route Servers and take appropriate administrative and/or technical measures.

[6.](#) Security Considerations

This document describes a denial of service which Route Origin Validation or other RPKI policy may place on a BGP neighbor, and describes how it may be ameliorated.

Otherwise, this document adds no additional security considerations to those already described by the referenced documents.

[7.](#) IANA Considerations

None

8. Acknowledgements

The authors wish to thank Ben Maddison and Nick Hilliard.

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