

BY MARI 15:22  
05041

# No Expiration

draft-thomson-gendispatch-no-expiry-01

# RFC 7459

uncertainty

00

01

02

03

04

05

06

07

08

Several iterations refreshed on the 6 month reminder  
then lots of time spent “expired” between updates

Still current throughout

Changes between -06 and -08:

- Dates
- Change of author affiliation
- Two dependencies were updated from I-D to RFC
- xml2rfc changed some whitespace
- One word was changed to a synonym, in the appendix

# Expired ≠

Irrelevant or stale

- Many RFCs cite Internet-Drafts
- Relevance might be correlated with age, ... but a draft can go bad in less than day ... or stay fresh for years

Abandoned

- Sometimes a group is not ready to take on work
- Sometimes a group needs to pause work for a few years

An accurate prediction

- An expiration date is set when published, without the benefit of precognition

# **Proposal: Do away with the notion entirely**

It doesn't match practice

... old drafts are kept and are still easily accessible

It doesn't help us focus effort

... chairs know what is relevant without it

It only encourages pointless busywork

# Replacement mechanisms

This shouldn't be necessary, but

... caveat lector

Reminders not on expiry, but

... for sessions when drafts are not updated,

... but were updated before the previous session

# Second try

I asked a while ago

This draft expired, but remained current

Additions this time:

- Text on what might be a better substitute
- A new co-author (welcome Paul)