Comments received for
ISO 639-3 Change Request
2016-024

Outcome: Rejected
Effective date: January 31, 2017
Registration Authority decision on Change Request no. 2016-024: to create the code element [lsp] for Louisiana Spanish.

The request to create the code [lsp] for Louisiana Spanish is rejected. As the request itself states, "There is some mutual intelligibility between Louisiana Spanish-speakers and other Hispanophones, yet syntax and lexicon in Louisiana Spanish often depart from normative standardized syntax and lexicon in all other Spanish varieties spoken in the world". The existence of differences in syntax and lexicon demonstrates that there is an identifiable dialect, but it is not sufficient to demonstrate that it constitutes a separate language. For that, evidence must be given that the differences are so great that speakers of the two varieties cannot communicate. But as the request itself says, "there is some mutual intelligibility" between these varieties so the differences do not rise to the level that is required by the criteria of the standard.