

Neil Miller

Agency Liaison

AGE: 48
OCCUPATION: Component Lead
EMPLOYER: Department of the Interior
LOCATION: Washington, DC

BIO

Neil has been an open source advocate at his agency for several years and was excited about the release of the Federal Source Code Policy. Unfortunately, he has not been authorized to release any open source software until his agency has established comprehensive procedures surrounding open source. Neil knows that some agencies (e.g., NASA, DOE) have been successful in the open source sphere and would love to learn from their experience, but doesn't know who to reach out to.

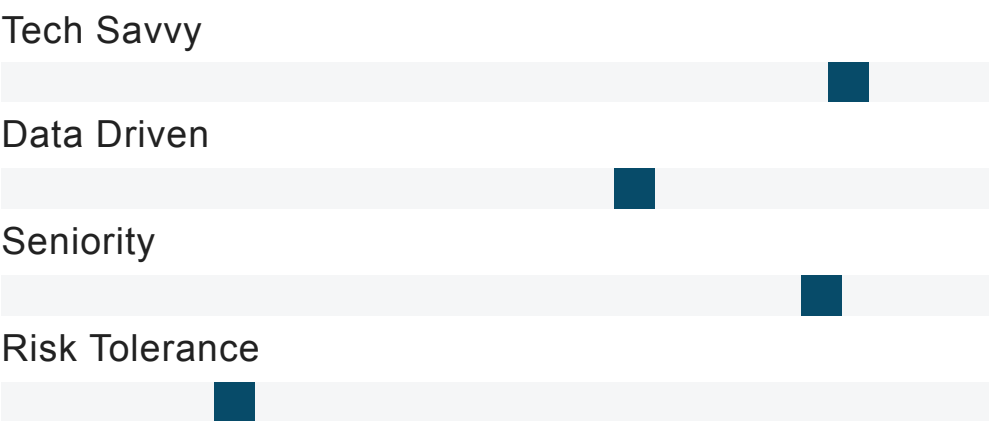
GOALS/TASKS

- Move away from random discovery to a more systematic way to collaborate with other agencies to share code and guidance on what well-managed open source projects look like
- Collaborate with component CIOs to define an internal open source policy and develop shared procedures, workflows and security standards
- Get his agency to publish open source projects that comply with the Federal Source Code Policy, are well-managed, and provide reusable code
- Build up Code.gov to be an information, resource, and community hub for all things open source in the federal government
- Stop doing a manual software inventory process and use the Scraper tool (or some automated alternative) instead

BEHAVIORS/HABITS

- Is an open source advocate and is responsible for ensuring that his agency is in compliance with the Federal Source Code Policy
- Has a proven track record of collaborating across teams, which is important because he regularly interacts with procurement, legal, engineering and security
- Participates in monthly engineering team meetings across components because he enjoys learning about best practices, new solutions, and challenges throughout the agency

TRAITS



NEEDS/FRUSTRATIONS

- Each component CIO in his agency wants to set their own procedures, workflows and security standards, which makes establishing a comprehensive process for open source software challenging
- With multiple competing priorities from OMB and limited resources to implement, Neil has found OCIO leadership does not prioritize addressing the requirements of the Federal Source Code Policy
- Has heard of good things coming out of agencies like NASA and DOE, but doesn't know who to contact at other agencies about projects they're working on, potential collaboration opportunities, or even to discuss lessons learned
- Needs access to guidance on open source best practices in the federal government
- Requires support from agency CIO/CTO to review and approve agency open source policy; review cycles are lengthy with many decision makers involved

CHANNELS

