Deferred examination should be a preferred Track of examination since most US patents do not pay for the cost of obtaining same. However the 30 month delay should be renewable subject to an appropriate fee up to the time limit of the patent term.

Deferred examination already exists in the security group where patent examination can be deferred for reasons of national security. Applicants should be given the option of deferring to any period within the patent term subject to appropriate scaled fee along the lines of the maintenance fee (i.e. the longer the delay the larger the fee).

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