Title: Proposed 802.16 Maintenance Process

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Re: Task assigned by 802.16 WG to the 802.16 Maintenance TG to propose a process for 802.16 standards maintenance

Abstract: This document describes a proposed process to compile and review issues regarding errors, ambiguities and errata that are uncovered in the 802.16 standards (IEEE 802.16-2004, IEEE 802.16e-2005 and IEEE 802.16f-2005) when there is not an open corrigendum project.

Purpose: For consideration by the 802.16 Working Group.

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Proposed Process for 802.16 Maintenance

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The IEEE 802.16 Working Group has assigned its Maintenance Task Group <http://WirelessMAN.org/maint> to propose a process for handling and compiling issues regarding errors, ambiguities and errata in the 802.16 standards (currently IEEE 802.16-2004, IEEE 802.16e-2005, and IEEE 802.16f-2005) during the period when no corrigendum project is in place. An Adhoc committee was formed by the Task Group during the week of Session #41 to focus on this development.

A scope for the Maintenance process has been drafted:

*To make essential corrections and clarifications to the published 802.16 standards, limited to repair errors, ambiguities and errata of interpretations, including omissions which prevent interoperability. This process shall in no way introduce new features or enhancements to the published 802.16 standards.*

This scope is intended to strongly discourage the submission of comments that would suggest a significant change to the standard had the comments been submitted during a project.

The following process is proposed to the Working Group:

1. Approximately six weeks prior to an 802.16 session, a call for comments is issued for approximately 4 weeks by either the 802.16 WG Chair or the 802.16 Maintenance Chair.
2. Submitters send new comments to the chairs during this period.
3. New comments are compiled along with any Requests for Interpretation that have been submitted to the Working Group, and any reply comments to existing comments. Comment numbers are assigned each new item.
4. The Maintenance Chair will review if the comments are complete, i.e. check that each comment specifies which document it pertains to, and check that each comment includes page numbers and section numbers. If not the submitter is contacted to complete the comment.
5. The comments are then reviewed by the Maintenance Task Group during an 802.16 session. If the opinion of the group is that the comment is out of scope of this process, as defined above, then the opinion will be noted with an explanation as to why the comment is deemed out of scope.
6. The comments that the group feels are in scope will be discussed further including any suggested remedies that may have been included. The remedies will be checked for completeness or modified to suggest how it should be completed. It may also be the opinion of the group that a remedy is not necessary, in which case an explanation why a remedy is not necessary will be provided.
7. At the end of the review, the comments with their remedies, including the modifications suggested by the group are compiled and made public.
8. Following the 802.16 session, a call for reply comments on the updated comments is issued for a period of two weeks.
9. Reply comments are appended to the original comments. If reply comments are received on a given comment specifying anything other than to accept the recommendation of the Maintenance group, the comment remains open for further discussion by the group.
10. If no reply comments are received or the reply comments specify they accept the recommendation of the group for a given comment, the comment will be considered complete.
11. Completed comments will be put into a package in preparation for a future corrigendum project.
12. Comments that originated from Requests for Interpretation will be used to draft responses (usually in the form of a letter) to the requests.
13. The Maintenance Task Group may choose to use the comments that have been determined to be completed to generate a working document. The working document is for informative purposes only.
With respect to the review of the comments within the Maintenance Task group the Adhoc group suggests the following additional procedures:

- To give the TG chair the authority to determine that a comment is out of scope. A Member may appeal such a determination of the Chair. If the appeal is seconded by a Member, the Chair’s decision may be overturned by a vote of at least 50%.
- If the group feels a remedy is incomplete, and two or more solutions to make it complete are proposed by the members of the task group, the ad hoc proposes to select a given solution if 75% of the voting members favor it. Otherwise, all solutions are included with the comment and the comment remains open for future discussion and harmonization.

For further discussion contact:

- IEEE 802.16 Maintenance Task Group Chair: Jonathan Labs <jlabs@wavesat.com>
- IEEE 802.16 Working Group Chair: Roger Marks <marks@nist.gov>
Figure 1
Appendix: Adhoc Participants

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