

IEEE 802.16 Working Group on Broadband Wireless Access

<http://WirelessMAN.org>



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Dr.-Ing. Jamshid Khun-Jush, Chair, ETSI BRAN
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Dear Jamshid:

In our Session #15 of 10-14 September, IEEE 802.16 read your announcement postponing the following week's scheduled BRAN meeting until 23-26 October. We sympathize with the difficulty of this decision and wish you best of luck in maintaining your progress in spite of the delay.

We have published an overview of our session in the Session #15 Report. I'd like to highlight the following:

- The base IEEE 802.16 draft (including the base 802.16 MAC and the 10-66 GHz PHY) was given initial approval in IEEE Sponsor Ballot and is being finalized through comment resolution. The document remains on track for completion in late October. The draft (P802.16/D4-2001) was published by IEEE and is now available for sale in the catalog.
- Our 802.16a and 802.16b projects (covering 2-11 GHz licensed and 5-6 license-exempt, respectively) completed comment resolution and finalized important technical work. This led to a joint working document that, for the first time, was elevated to Working Group status. A Working Group Review of the document will run through Session #16 in November.
- Our 802.16.2a project held its first meeting to develop an amendment to the recently-published IEEE Std 802.16.2 ("Coexistence of Fixed Broadband Wireless Access Systems"). The amendment will extend coverage to the 2-11 GHz licensed bands and expand the recommendations regarding point-to-point systems.

In addition, we note the two following specific issues:

- We understand that Marianna Goldhammer, IEEE 802.16's Liaison to the HIPERMAN effort, has forwarded to BRAN the two documents "HIPERMAN DLC – Base line proposal: IEEE 802.16 MAC" and "HIPERMAN PHY – Base line proposal: IEEE 802.16a PHY." We endorse these submissions. However, we note that the references therein to our current 2-11 GHz Working Document ([IEEE 802.16ab-01/01r1](#)) need to be updated to the revised version ([IEEE 802.16ab-01/01r2](#)).
- We continue to be interested in adding an addition to Annex 1 to the ETSI/IEEE-SA agreement to cover 802.16/BRAN cooperation. We are awaiting word from you on the approval of the new BRAN Terms of Reference so that we may proceed.

We would also like to follow up on your 29 June letter (BRAN24d129/[IEEE 802.16l-01/15](#)) to IEEE 802 and 802's 11 July reply ([IEEE 802.16l-01/18r1](#)). Your letter reported "a decision within ETSI EP-BRAN not to develop any FWA standards" for the bands 5150-5350 MHz and 5470-5725 MHz. You also encouraged a "unified position between the worldwide standards bodies" on this issue. IEEE 802 supported a unified position in these bands, noting, however, that

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“IEEE 802 reaffirms its support for fixed wireless access application development in the 5.8 GHz band based on the applicable IEEE 802.16 standards now under development.”

At this point, we would like to request BRAN’s interest in a unified position on license-exempt fixed wireless access in the 5.8 GHz band (more specifically, Band C, covering 5725-5875 MHz). As you know, IEEE 802.16 is developing fixed wireless access (FWA) specifications for both licensed and license-exempt bands. The license-exempt situation is certainly distinct, but we believe that it has much in common with licensed bands. This is why we are developing both the 802.16a (licensed) and 802.16b (license-exempt) projects in a simultaneous effort.

We are aware that several European regulatory administrations are considering opening the 5 GHz Band C for license-exempt FWA. For example, we understand that the UK’s RA, after receiving a 5 GHz Advisory Group recommendation to study FWA in this band using 2-4 W EIRP, is actively considering opening this band for license-exempt FWA.

We believe that our IEEE 802.16b (WirelessHUMAN™) project is well-suited to applications in Band C. Noting that BRAN’s HIPERMAN project is already actively considering the IEEE 802.16a standard, IEEE 802.16 would gladly participate with HIPERMAN in examining the suitability of license-exempt FWA operation in Band C. To initiate this effort, we have already started a comprehensive sharing study with regards to this band. This is included in the current working document ([IEEE 802.16ab-01/01r2](#)).

We are very interested to better understand BRAN’s position on this issue and are hopeful of a unified position.

As usual, we welcome your members to participate in our process in any way. Please let me know if there is anything we can do to assist in this process.

Best regards,



Dr. Roger B. Marks
Chair, IEEE 802.16 Working Group on Broadband Wireless Access

cc: Jim Carlo, Chair, IEEE 802 LAN/MAN Standards Committee
Jay Klein, IEEE 802.16 Liaison to ETSI BRAN
Marianna Goldhammer, IEEE 802.16 Liaison to ETSI HIPERMAN