IEEE 802

Local and Metropolitan Area Network Standards Committee

Source: IEEE 802 Local and Metropolitan Area Network Standards Committee (LMSC)[1]

Date: 9th July 2020

DCN: IEEE EC-20-0122-01-00EC

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From:	Paul Nikolich	Chair, IEEE 802 LMSC p.nikolich@ieee.org

Subject IEEE 802.3 nominations to NFPA 70 Code Making Panels

Approval Approved by IEEE 802 LMSC Executive Committee on 7th July 2020 teleconference

Dear Ms Bellis,

IEEE 802 notes both the IEEE Standard Association (IEEE-SA) Board of Governors (BoG) resolution of Friday 3rd April 2020 <https://standards.ieee.org/about/bog/resolutions.html> terminating the appointments of IEEE External Representatives to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the IEEE-SA Standards Board resolution of Wednesday 3rd June 2020

[1] This document solely represents the views of the IEEE 802 LMSC, and does not necessarily represent a position of the IEEE or the IEEE Standards Association.

<https://standards.ieee.org/about/sasb/resolutions.html> disbanding IEEE SCC18 National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Coordinating Committee. These resolutions provide the opportunity for IEEE technical communities to have direct representation in the NFPA standards development process.

Because of their common focus, the IEEE and NFPA have a long-standing relationship, with IEEE External Representatives filling seats on various NFPA code-making panels over the years. This began when IEEE's predecessor organizations were primarily involved in power transmission and telegraphy/telephony, which was the scope of electrical technology at the time. However, over the years, the breadth and scope of the IEEE has grown to include, not only electric power circuits, but also communications and increasingly computing.

The growth of ubiquitous computing and networked communications to include powered circuits has created a different challenge. In particular, computerization and networking have become ubiquitous in even the simplest control and sensing devices. The IEEE today comprises multiple societies, each of which represents one of the world's largest technical organizations in their particular area of expertise. These IEEE societies have diverse views, which may not be reconcilable. As a result, IEEE is faced with a situation where a single seat per NFPA 70 National Electrical Code (NEC) Code Making Panels or NFPA Committee no longer provides adequate paths for the expertise represented by its multiple societies.

IEEE 802 supports the IEEE-SA BoG and IEEE-SA Standards Board resolutions as they pave the way for the diverse views of IEEE technical communities to be considered by NFPA 70 CMPs and Committees. IEEE 802 requests that the NFPA consider the representation of more than one IEEE technical committee on individual NFPA 70 Code Making Panels and NFPA Committees where appropriate. IEEE 802 supports the applications received from individuals to serve as IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group organizational representatives to NFPA 70 CMPs as IEEE 802.3 has separate and distinct expertise from other IEEE Technical Societies associated with the code.

Please place this letter on the August 2020 NFPA Standards Council agenda for consideration alongside the applications for IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group organizational representatives.

Sincerely,

Paul Nikolich

Chair, IEEE 802 Local and Metropolitan Area Network Standards Committee