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**IEEE 802.16 Working Group on Broadband Wireless Access**

**http://WirelessMAN.org**

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16 November 2012

To: Kevin Vachon, Chief Operating Officer, Metro Ethernet Forum

 Peter Meissner, Operating Officer, NGMN Alliance

Gordon Mansfield, Chair, Small Cell Forum

 Declan Byrne, President, WiMAX Forum

cc: Paul Nikolich, Chair, IEEE 802 Executive Committee

Subj: Update on IEEE P802.16r Activity regarding Small Cell Backhaul

As noted in our prior statement of 20 September, the IEEE 802.16 Working Group (WG) on Broadband Wireless Access intends to initiate a new standardization project to amend IEEE Std 802.16-2012 for enhancements to better address Small Cell Backhaul (SCB) Applications. Meeting this week in our Session #82, the Working Group has approved revisions to the draft Project Authorization Request (PAR), as reflected in [IEEE 802.16-12-0587-03](http://doc.wirelessman.org/16-12-0587-03)). On 16 November, the IEEE 802 Executive Committee agreed to forward this PAR to the approving entities in IEEE, with an approval decision scheduled for 5 December.

The Working Group appreciates the input it received from the Small Cell Forum ([IEEE 802.16-12-0631](http://doc.wirelessman.org/16-12-0631)) and looks forward to further cooperation, particularly with the backhaul SIG. We look forward to further input in 2013.

The Working Group also appreciates the input it received from the WiMAX Forum ([IEEE 802.16-12-0652](http://doc.wirelessman.org/16-12-0652)), including the report on its activities regarding Carrier Ethernet 2.0. We value the specific comments regarding the draft P802.16r PAR and are pleased to have been able to accommodate them.

We welcome your further input and we encourage you to provide your views, particularly regarding the appropriate technical requirements for the P802.16r project. We draw your attention to the relevant [Call for Contributions](http://doc.wirelessman.org/16-12-XXXX). The Working Group would appreciate your inputs prior to the deadline of 9 January. Our next opportunity to respond to a formal communication will occur at [IEEE 802.16 Session #83](http://ieee802.org/16/meetings/mtg83) (14-17 Jan 2013 in Vancouver, BC, Canada). For information on our future meeting schedules, see <http://ieee802.org/16/calendar.html>.

Sincerely,

Roger B. Marks

Chair, IEEE 802.16 Working Group on Broadband Wireless Access