Project	**IEEE 802.16 Broadband Wireless Access Working Group <http://ieee802.org/16>**
Title	**Proposed response to liaison statement IEEE L802.16-07/027 from the WiMAX Forum**
Date Submitted	**2007-05-10**
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Re:	
Abstract	Proposed text for LS from 802.16 to WiMAX Forum in response to L802.16-07/027
Purpose	For consideration by the Working Group as a liaison statement to the WiMAX Forum in response to IEEE L802.16-07/027
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IEEE 802.16 Working Group on Broadband Wireless Access
http://WirelessMAN.org

Roger B. Marks
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10 May 2007

Mr. Ron Resnick
President, WiMAX Forum
ronald.j.resnick@intel.com

Dear Ron,

Thank you for your liaison statement (IEEE L802.16-07/027) of 4 May 2007.

The Working Group membership believes that the WiMAX Forum Mobile System Profile forms a comprehensive representation of an interoperable system based on IEEE Std 802.16. Furthermore, the membership expects many deployments of systems based on the WiMAX Forum Mobile System Profile in the next few years. Therefore, the WG membership has concluded that the WiMAX Forum Mobile System Profile should form a basis of 802.16's backward compatibility requirements.

The Working Group has considered your proposal to base the 802.16 backward compatibility requirements by reference to the WiMAX Forum Mobile System Profile. We agree that this could be a practical solution. We do see some possible concerns with this approach, and we appreciate your offer to work together to address the issues.

We appreciate your recognition of "the need for a clear reference in IEEE 802.16 to ensure unambiguous definition of backward compatibility requirements." While an external reference can serve this purpose, we need to be confident that the document referenced will remain available to the public for the duration of the standards development process and the life of the standard. Please understand that 802.16 would need to reference a specific revision of the document [for example, WiMAX Forum Mobile System Profile Release 1.0 (Revision 1.4.0: 2007-05-02)]. Any reference would not be automatically updated if the WiMAX Forum finds it necessary to revise the Profile. In that case, we could, with appropriate consensus support, procedurally update our text to reflect the revision.

While individual members of the 802.16 Working Group have downloaded and reviewed the Profile, the Working Group itself has not reviewed it due to concerns about possible

copyright restrictions. To allay our concerns, we would greatly appreciate receiving the latest revision of the Profile as an attachment to a liaison statement, with authorization to make it available to our membership on a password-protected basis and to review it during our meetings.

In summary, we hope to speedily resolve this issue. We look forward to receipt of a copy of the Profile, your written commitment to keep the specific document available to the public, and an appropriate authorization for its use.

Sincerely,

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

cc:	Paul Nikolich, Chair, IEEE 802 Executive Committee