

# **Comment** **I-93 – TX BEACON Loopback Lockup**



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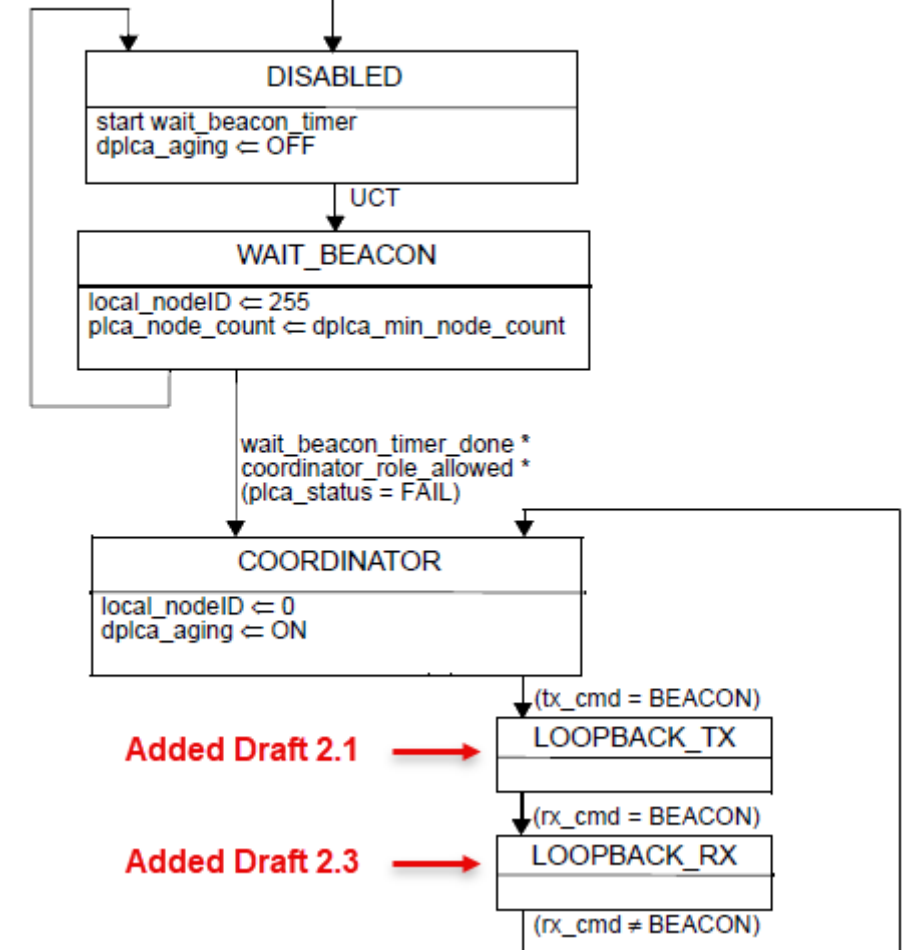
IEEE 802.3da - September 2025 Interim – Minneapolis, MN

# I-93 – TX BEACON Loopback Lockup

## Background

- Draft 2.1 added LOOPBACK\_TX to prevent detection of locally transmitted BEACON from forcing into FOLLOWER
- Draft 2.3 added LOOPBACK\_RX to wait until locally transmitted BEACON was fully received before returning to coordinator. This was to meet PHY timing requirements

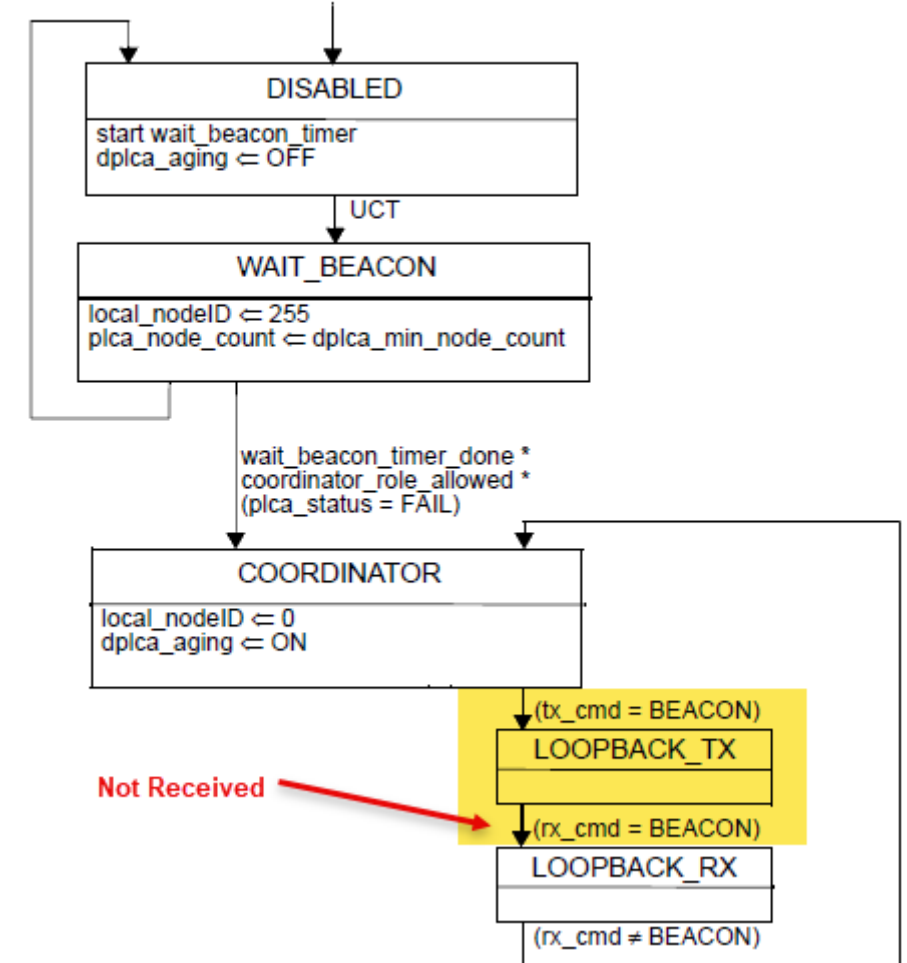
148.4.7.5 D-PLCA Control state diagram  
plca\_reset + (!dplca\_en) + (!plca\_en)



# I-93 – TX BEACON Loopback Lockup

- Current D-PLCA Control State Diagram can remain stuck in LOOPBACK\_TX state if the locally transmitted BEACON is not detected due to noise or interference
- Credit to Pablo Ventura (ADI) for identifying this corner case

148.4.7.5 D-PLCA Control state diagram  
plca\_reset + (!dplca\_en) + (!plca\_en)

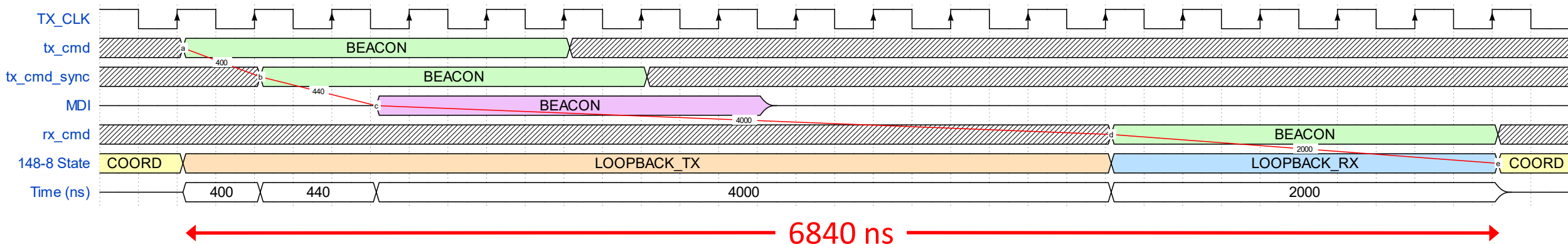


# Missing TX BEACON loopback

- **Why would a node not receive back the BEACON it transmitted?**
  - Brief interference from some other node or EMC
    - Rare event & should recover quickly in next cycle(s)
  - Perfect synchronization/collision with another coordinator
    - Unlikely, given the random wait\_beacon\_timer

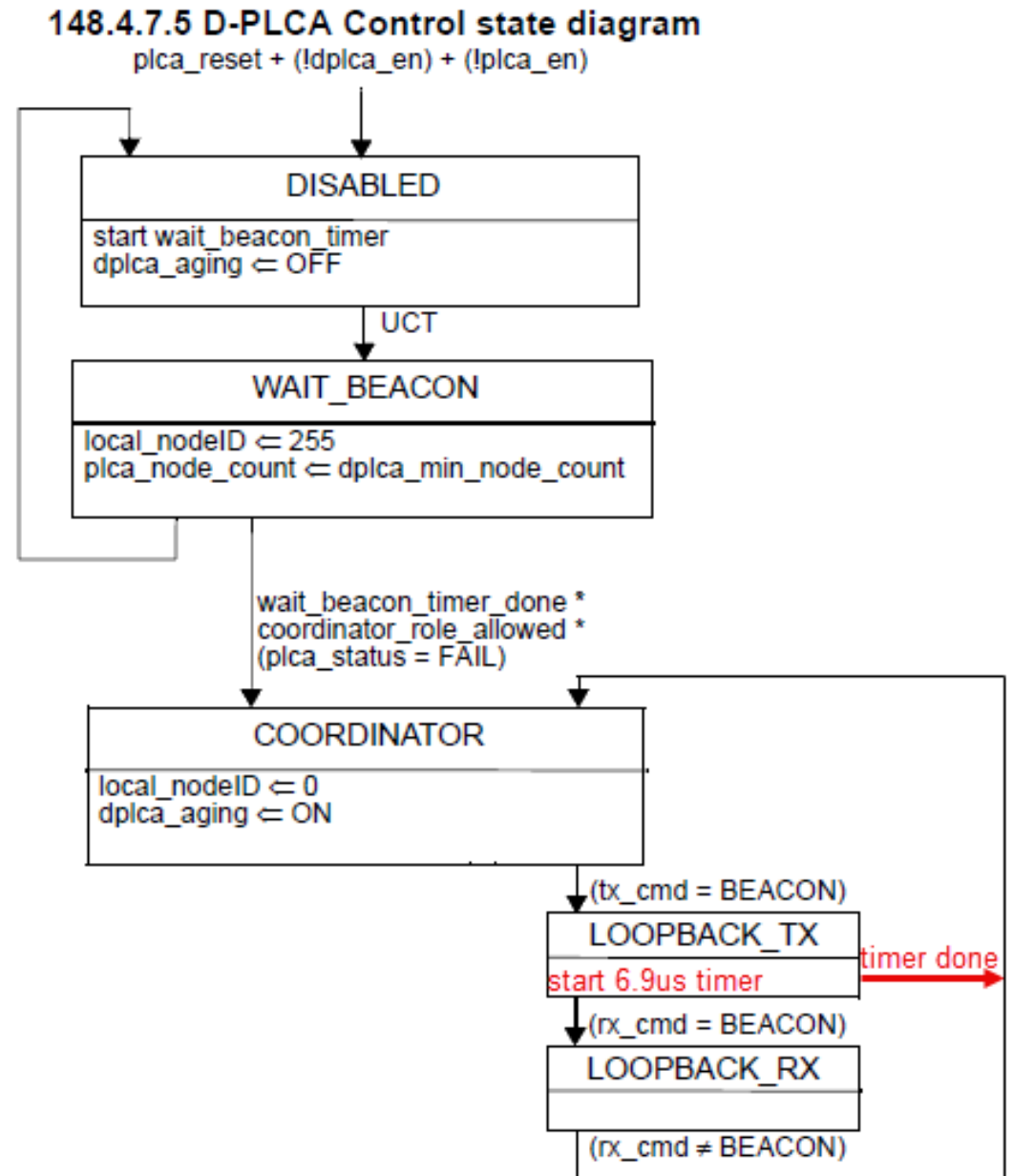
# Proposed Solution

- Add a timer to limit how long the state diagram can remain in LOOPBACK\_TX
- How long should the timer be?
  - Slide 7 [https://www.ieee802.org/3/da/public/0525/Baggett\\_3da\\_Cmt47\\_DPLCA\\_Block\\_Own\\_BEACONS\\_v01.pdf](https://www.ieee802.org/3/da/public/0525/Baggett_3da_Cmt47_DPLCA_Block_Own_BEACONS_v01.pdf)
  - 6.9  $\mu$ s using PHY delay constraints in Tables 147-6 and 188-5
    - Time from setting tx\_cmd=BEACON to last possible time to receive rx\_cmd=BEACOM



# Proposed Solution

- Start 6.9  $\mu$ s timer on entry to LOOPBACK\_TX
- Exit LOOPBACK\_TX back to COORDINATOR on timer done



# I-93 Editing Instructions

## Add new timer to 148.4.7.4 "Timers" on P81 L22:

beacon\_timeout\_timer

Limits the time the D-PLCA control state diagram may remain in the LOOPBACK\_TX state waiting for the self-detection of a transmitted BEACON.

Duration: the duration of this timer is 69 bit times.

Tolerance: 1 BT

# I-93 Editing Instructions

## P82 L24 Figure 148-8 – D-PLCA Control State Diagram

- **Inside LOOPBACK\_TX state add the action**  
start beacon\_timeout\_timer
- **Add transition from LOOPBACK\_TX to COORDINATOR with condition**  
beacon\_timeout\_timer done



# Thank You

## Questions?