

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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PUBLIC SAFETY NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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THURSDAY,

JULY 17, 2003

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The Committee met in the Commission Meeting Room, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C., at 9:30 a.m., Kathy Wallman, Chairperson, presiding.

PRESENT:

KATHY WALLMAN, Chairperson

HARLIN McEWEN, Member

TIMOTHY LOEWENSTEIN, Member

CHARLES "CHUCK" JACKSON, Member

RICK MURPHY, Member

STEVE PROCTOR, Member

MARILYN WARD, Member

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ALSO PRESENT:

JOHN POWELL

MICHAEL WILHELM, Designated Federal Official

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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 (9:45 a.m.)

3 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: I think we're ready
4 to get started.

5 Good morning and welcome to the 20th and
6 final meeting of the Public Safety National
7 Coordination Committee.

8 You know, our first meeting was April
9 29th, 1999, and in the years and months that have
10 transpired since then there have been so many
11 important changes in the world that affect the issue
12 that we've been working on. When you think about it,
13 we had the Taliban. We had al Qaeda. Se had
14 September 11th, the anthrax crisis. We've had two
15 wars, both continuing. We've had a new national alert
16 system invented. We've had new aviation security
17 threats, and we have a new Department of Homeland
18 Security.

19 So you should be very proud of the
20 accomplishments that you've achieved over the past
21 several years, and they're being documented in a
22 report which is a compendium of FCC recommendations

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1 and which will be available at a special recognition
2 ceremony that is tentatively scheduled for the
3 September agenda Commission meeting, and so we'll put
4 the details of that on the Web site and issue a public
5 notice to fill you in when that becomes finalized.

6 The date of the September meeting,
7 assuming we do go ahead with the special ceremony that
8 I mentioned, will be September 10th, but before we can
9 celebrate, we still have a lot of work to do. The
10 NCC's charter expires on July 25th. That's a week
11 from tomorrow, and this meeting, this final meeting,
12 is our last chance to formulate recommendations from
13 the Steering Committee to the FCC.

14 Since our charter expires on that date, we
15 need to send something by the close of business on
16 July 25th that captures the recommendations that we
17 intend to pass on from this final meeting. I think it
18 will be possible to supplement those recommendations
19 with a more detailed report shortly after that July
20 25th date, but this is really our last chance to
21 achieve and test consensus on the final work items
22 that are before us.

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1 Michael Wilhelm has told me that you made
2 tremendous progress yesterday in refining the issues
3 that will come before the Steering Committee today,
4 and I look forward to hearing the reports from the
5 Interoperability, Technology, and Implementation
6 Subcommittees.

7 Our Interoperability chair, Sergeant
8 Powell, is doubling as a team photographer today. So
9 I'll wait until he finishes his shot.

10 Okay. Are you ready?

11 SGT. POWELL: Good morning. I'll pass out
12 to the Steering Committee and we'll keep some extra
13 copies for Michael.

14 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: You're passing out a
15 summary of?

16 SGT. POWELL: This is a summary of the
17 actions and the recommendations that we'll be
18 forwarding. We have one document we're cleaning up.
19 Michael will try to have that to you by the end of the
20 week so you can work it into the schedule to be
21 forwarded to the Commission by the deadline date next
22 week.

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1 This reiterates some of the actions
2 yesterday and also requests that we received from
3 Michael at the last Steering Committee meeting to
4 actually establish some language that the Commission
5 could use should they decide to adopt some of these
6 recommendations.

7 And that document is fairly final, other
8 than that we need to confirm some of the language.
9 We'll be working with a couple of the manufacturers to
10 do that from yesterday's decisions and
11 recommendations. And also we need to confirm some of
12 the rule sections that we're proposing.

13 But let me summarize. It will include the
14 SIE name, structure, and expanded authority; channel
15 nomenclature standardization for all of the public
16 safety bands; and we will be forwarding the matrix
17 that we cleaned up at yesterday's meeting beyond what
18 those of you who were at the subcommittee meeting
19 yesterday saw. We have added a final column to that
20 that will include a reference to the new footnotes.

21 What we have done in this new table is to
22 recommend that the Commission extract all of the

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1 interoperability channels from all of the bands and
2 create a new table that contains only the
3 interoperability channels and appropriate footnotes
4 for those interoperability channels.

5 We thought that would be the least
6 confusing way to do it, and then also we can put in an
7 appropriate section or two that would briefly discuss
8 the interoperability channels and who's eligible to
9 use them in that section, which would generally be any
10 eligible in Part 90 could use those channels, but it
11 needs to say that.

12 And so there will be footnotes then
13 specifically addressing channels that have a priority
14 for use by some of the services, not exclusive use,
15 but a priority, for example, on some of the channels
16 that exist today for law enforcement, fire, and EMS,
17 and the footnotes will say that those have a priority
18 on those channels, but not exclusive use of those
19 interoperability channels.

20 So there will be standardization of
21 interoperability restriction footnotes in the table of
22 allocations. We're also asking from our discussion

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1 yesterday for a requirement for states to submit all
2 banned interoperability plans and have them reviewed
3 on a three-year basis. Those would be submitted
4 either by the SIECs or where the SIECs themselves were
5 not formed by what we have asked to be called within
6 the RPCs an SIEC subcommittee.

7 And this comes from some of our
8 discussions with some of the federal agencies, in
9 particular, Safecom, who would like to know that there
10 is a single point of contact within each state that
11 they can go to get interoperability information.

12 Again from yesterday, expanding the
13 channel display reference in some of the existing
14 documents from six characters to eight characters; the
15 requirement and time frame for manufacturers to
16 incorporate the IO channel names in their programming
17 software so that when a particular frequency is
18 programmed into a radio, that the standardized
19 nomenclature will automatically be loaded with no
20 other choice provided to the user but that name.

21 And then the requirement for inclusion of
22 the ANSI 902 series, 50 kilohertz wideband data

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1 interoperability mode in most wideband data equipment,
2 and again, after discussing this with two of the
3 manufacturers that were at yesterday's meeting, we
4 want to be very careful on how we word the exclusion
5 for those particular we said yesterday "imbedded
6 devices" that have an imbedded modem in them, and
7 defining the term "imbedded" is not going to be
8 necessarily easy.

9 So over the next couple of days I'll get
10 together. I've already had some discussions with one
11 of the people to make sure that we're on the right
12 track there.

13 Just to note that we had unanimous
14 consensus on Items 5 and 6, which were the channel
15 display and the requirement in time frame for
16 manufacturers.

17 On Item No. 7, which was requirement to
18 include the 50 kilohertz wideband data mode, we had
19 consensus with objections from only one of the
20 manufacturers.

21 So in closing, from my subcommittee we'd
22 like to strongly urge the Steering Committee to again

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1 reiterate its support for those items that we are
2 clarifying here and to carry forward to the Commission
3 the recommendations that we made on the new items, and
4 we will have that final report to you hopefully by
5 weekend so that it can be included.

6 And those of you on the Steering Committee
7 who would like to be involved in reviewing that as we
8 finish it, please let me know afterwards, and I'll
9 make sure that we copy you on that document as we
10 finish it so that you've had a chance to look at it.

11 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Thank you.

12 I'd like to identify myself as interested
13 in doing that because I think there may be some
14 importance to the exact way that the number seven is
15 expressed.

16 SGT. POWELL: Yes, that's fine, as long as
17 you'll give me your super secret E-mail address.

18 (Laughter.)

19 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Oh, you mean the one
20 that works?

21 SGT. POWELL: That works, yes.

22 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Yeah.

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1 SGT. POWELL: And I would entertain any
2 questions anyone has.

3 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Any questions from
4 the Steering Committee?

5 MR. HOFMEISTER: Ernie Hofmeister, MACOM.
6 We talked about this yesterday, and I've
7 been part of this process, and I certainly concur
8 here, but I just would want to note for the record
9 that with regard to Item 7, including the TIA
10 referenced wideband data mode as mandatory in all
11 radios does come with some impact. The impact will be
12 that sort of sets, in my view, the architecture of the
13 radio and will have some resultant cost impact.

14 That, as I understand, has been explained,
15 and I fully accept a user you need, user driven
16 requirement, but I just wanted to note for the record
17 that it does have impact on the design, and it will
18 have impact on the cost of those radios.

19 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: I think that point
20 is well taken, and that concern is one that I hope we
21 can capture in the way that the recommendation is
22 worded. You know, we're a bit constrained in what we

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1 can recommend to the Commission based on the standards
2 that are available now, and that has been sort of a
3 characteristic of our process all along, but you know,
4 it is a fact that new and better ideas come along from
5 time to time. So I'd like to capture that possibility
6 in the way that we word the recommendation, and I
7 would invite your input and participation in drafting
8 that document so we can capture that.

9 Anything else? Any comments from the
10 floor?

11 (No response.)

12 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Okay. Thank you
13 very much.

14 SGT. POWELL: Kathy, I probably should
15 note just so that it doesn't catch anyone in the
16 audience by surprise, at our meeting this morning
17 prior, the five-year period for the software change
18 that we discussed yesterday, the manufacturers agreed
19 that they could do that in two years. When people in
20 the audience see this final report, it's going to show
21 a two-year requirement recommended for this software
22 change for the standardized nomenclature rather than

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1 five.

2 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Okay. Everybody who
3 wanted to speak, having been fully heard, I'm going to
4 take that as an expression of consensus around the
5 Interoperability Subcommittee recommendations that
6 Sergeant Powell has just outlined.

7 Hearing no objection, we'll move along and
8 hear from Glen Nash, the Technology Subcommittee.

9 MR. NASH: Good morning. The Technology
10 Subcommittee had a very short meeting yesterday. I
11 think we probably set a new record for short meetings
12 amongst the NCC. Dealt with some relatively
13 noncontroversial issues, specifically looking at the
14 recommendations for the Y band data channels.

15 I would like to express our appreciation
16 to TIA, to John Oblak and his TR-8 committee for the
17 Herculean effort that they've made in developing these
18 standards over what in reality is a very short time
19 period.

20 I would especially like to thank Jeff
21 Anderson from Motorola who really chaired the effort
22 to push all of this through.

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1 So at this point I'd like to ask John to
2 come on up, and if he'd make his report, then I'll
3 continue on.

4 (Pause in proceedings.)

5 MR. NASH: While John is getting that set
6 up, I will hand out a letter that Wayne Leland wrote
7 to Kathy. I've made copies for all of the Steering
8 Committee members. So I'll pass that on down.

9 There are some typographical errors in
10 this document that need to be corrected. The first is
11 in the very first paragraph in the fourth line. The
12 document refers to operating on 50 megahertz channels.
13 The Commission has not granted that to us.

14 (Laughter.)

15 PARTICIPANT: We tried.

16 MR. NASH: And so, therefore, that should
17 be changed to 50 kilohertz channels.

18 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: That's like
19 returning change to the cashier when he or she gives
20 you too much. Good for you.

21 MR. NASH: And then there are some
22 document updates. I'll let John make his report

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1 first, and then we can go over those if we need to.

2 MR. OBLAK: Thank you very much.

3 If we could have the slides up, I would
4 like to give our final report on the progress of TIA
5 standards toward wideband data. As you can see on the
6 slides, and I'll focus your attention to the right-
7 hand side, we have seven documents on the right-hand
8 side in that column that we began work on as of about
9 two years ago to define the interoperability standards
10 as they would apply to wideband data.

11 As you can see, six of the seven documents
12 have been published. The seventh document we'll talk
13 about in a moment.

14 To the left of the line we see four other
15 documents. We're not recommending these documents as
16 interoperability standards. However, they're
17 supporting standards that are available and do support
18 the interoperability standards as they exist.

19 By way of update, I think the first issue
20 is the one document that you saw, which was the text
21 messaging document, and the question there was we had
22 been working and focusing on efforts on trying to

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1 create a text messaging document by this time frame.
2 We ran into several difficulties, the first of which
3 was we were hoping to draw from some industry
4 standards that were available for text messaging.

5 In our survey of what was available we
6 found that there was actually nothing available that
7 was public domain. There's several messaging services
8 available, all of which are proprietary, and so we
9 were not able to come up with a standardized, open
10 standard, should I say, text messaging document.

11 In addition, as we looked at the status of
12 this document, we realized that this was more of an
13 application layer type document in that we believe
14 that it will be implemented in the peripheral computer
15 software as opposed to a radio modem.

16 So, again, we believe that this document
17 isn't critical to the interoperability specifications
18 of the wideband data modem, and therefore, our
19 recommendation is not to include it at this time.

20 However, TIA will continue on and will
21 develop this standard. It's just not going to be
22 available in the timely fashion to be able to be

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1 included in the final report of the NCC.

2 In addition, TIA has continued on in the
3 standards. We reported that two of the standards,
4 TIA-902-BAAB and BAAD were published, and that is
5 correct. However, we've continued on with some
6 revisions to the document and some upgrades, and the
7 status of those documents at the present time are that
8 both of them have gone through the TIA ballot process.

9 We've reviewed the status of the ballot comments.
10 They were unanimously in favor of publishing with just
11 a few comments that need to be resolved.

12 And so the ballots are favorable for
13 publication and, therefore, we can predict and expect
14 publication in the August time frame for this
15 document.

16 It is, therefore, the recommendation of
17 TIA TR-8 that the following six standards be brought
18 forward as a recommendation to be adopted in the FCC
19 rules for wideband data interoperability, and they
20 include the wideband air interface physical layer,
21 media access and radio linked layer, channel coding,
22 logic link control, mobility management, and packet

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1 data standards, and so we're offering these as the
2 suite of standards to be included in the FCC rules
3 that define wideband interoperability.

4 I have one additional slide that
5 represents also progress in the area of narrow band
6 standards. Obviously in the course of time we have
7 gone through revisions of the existing narrow band
8 documents as well.

9 In particular, I call your attention to
10 the common air interface, which is TIA-102-BAA. This
11 document is undergoing a -A revision. Part of the
12 reason for it is to comply with the rules that the FCC
13 has already established for the 700 megahertz band,
14 and in particular, the issue of automatic frequency
15 control of a mobile station, mobile and portable
16 station.

17 And so this document is being reviewed at
18 this time. As well, three of the data documents, the
19 data overview, the packet data standard, and what
20 we're now calling the radio management protocol, these
21 three documents or these four documents together are
22 in the balloting process, and again, in looking at the

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1 summary of the ballot comments, we see that there is
2 no impediment to publication and, therefore, we're
3 predicting publication of these documents in the
4 August-September time frame was well.

5 In addition, the original FCC requirements
6 called out DES encryption, and we realized that the
7 recommendation by the Technology Subcommittee is to go
8 towards the AES encryption. We also offer from TIA a
9 new document, which is TIA-102-AAAD. That's our
10 block encryption protocol, which includes the
11 requirements for AES encryption. That document is
12 already published.

13 And therefore, our recommendation to this
14 body would be to update the FCC rules to include the
15 latest revisions of these documents and recommend them
16 for final FCC rules.

17 I would entertain any questions that
18 anyone might have.

19 MR. WILHELM: John, I have one question.
20 Could you put your last slide up, please?

21 MR. OBLAK: The previous?

22 MR. WILHELM: Yes.

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1 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: The narrow band.

2 MR. WILHELM: I recognize that BAAB/A is
3 necessary to conform the standard to the FCC's rules.
4 Are the remaining revised standards in conflict in
5 any way with the rules, as far as you know?

6 MR. OBLAK: I'm sorry. I believe it's
7 this slide.

8 No, there's no conflict. These are op.
9 issues and revision of the standard. They shouldn't
10 cause any problem with what already has been ruled on
11 by the FCC. These are just additional information,
12 and in the case of the BAA-A, it is required by the
13 FCC rules.

14 MR. WILHELM: With the exception of the
15 BAA-A document, are the changes substantive or
16 editorial?

17 MR. OBLAK: There are some substantive
18 changes. In the case of the data, we added support
19 for USB connection to peripheral equipment and things
20 of that nature. So we believe there are some
21 substantive changes, but we believe that they won't
22 really -- we believe that they should be incorporated

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1 in the --

2 MR. WILHELM: My question was directed to
3 whether we could do it procedurally by making an
4 editorial change or by putting it out for comment.
5 From what you say, let's just put it out for comment
6 along with the other NCC recommendations that the FCC
7 may adopt.

8 MR. OBLAK: I believe that may be
9 appropriate.

10 MR. WILHELM: Thank you, John.

11 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Other questions?

12 MR. HOFMEISTER: John, just a question on
13 the wideband data standards. I think people are well
14 aware that standards often have imbedded intellectual
15 property rights. I think it would be appropriate for
16 you or someone to comment on the status of the IPR
17 licensing for those and the recent letter.

18 MR. OBLAK: I would rather defer to
19 someone from Motorola because Motorola does hold all
20 of the IPR at this moment, and I have heard some
21 rumors as to -- thank you.

22 This is a letter to Ms. Wallman from Chuck

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1 Jackson on the subject of Motorola license terms for
2 700 megahertz public safety wideband interoperability
3 channels. Scalable adaptive modulation, or SAM, has
4 been recommended by TIA to the National Coordination
5 Committee as the wideband data interoperability
6 standard in the 700 megahertz public safety
7 communications band in the United States.

8 All essential IPR for SAM wideband data
9 has been identified and disclosed through the TIA
10 process. Motorola will license its SAM IPR essential
11 to meet the TIA 902 standard for use on the 700
12 megahertz public safety wideband interoperability
13 channels on a royalty free basis. Motorola will also
14 license its SAM IPR essential to meet the 902 standard
15 for use on the 700 megahertz public safety wideband
16 general use channels on a fair and reasonable terms
17 for the TIA process.

18 MR. HOFMEISTER: Thank you. I thought it
19 was important to get that acknowledged and in the
20 record.

21 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Yes. Thank you for
22 asking, Ernie. That was a valuable contribution to

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1 the record.

2 Any other questions for Mr. Oblak?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Okay.

5 MR. OBLAK: Thank you very much.

6 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Thank you. Thank
7 you for all your hard work and for your careful
8 reports to us about progress.

9 Mr. Nash.

10 MR. NASH: Okay. So continuing on, if we
11 refer back to the TIA letter again, there are
12 corrections as John indicated to the Item No. 1. That
13 reference should be updated to being BAAB-A, and the
14 expected publication date on that is now August of
15 2003.

16 And for Item No. 2, that should also be
17 updated to being BAAD-A, also with an August 2003 date
18 on it.

19 As John indicated, the seventh document
20 will be a significant period of time to develop and
21 certainly will not be completed by the end of the
22 NCC's charter. That is an applications layer document

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1 and would be hopefully, you know, just one of many
2 applications.

3 One other thing I'd like to point out
4 here, and it is the recommendation of the Technology
5 Subcommittee that we forward these six documents for
6 inclusion in the rules for operations on the
7 interoperability channels. At this point in time we
8 have defined that operation as being in the 50
9 kilohertz channel mode.

10 However, these documents are scalable up
11 to the full 150 kilohertz model of operation that is
12 permitted under the rules. So these documents are
13 adaptable to wider bandwidths as we may find other
14 applications that require the greater bandwidth.

15 So as I say, it is the recommendation of
16 the Technology Subcommittee that these documents be
17 forwarded for inclusion in the rules.

18 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Any discussion on
19 that recommendation?

20 (No response.)

21 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Okay.

22 MR. NASH: Then as John indicated, there

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1 are revisions to four of the TIA 102 series documents
2 that are currently referenced in Section 90.548 of the
3 rules. We recommend that those be updated to refer to
4 the latest versions of those documents.

5 Those would be rule changes requiring
6 Commission action. However, we feel that they are
7 necessary, and we would recommend that that
8 recommendation go forward to the Commission.

9 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Any discussion?

10 (No response.)

11 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Okay. Well, then
12 hearing no objections or proposed revisions, I'll take
13 that as an expression of consensus and include this
14 group of recommendations in what we forward to the FCC
15 next week.

16 MR. NASH: And then finally was the update
17 to the encryption reference in 90.553 of the rules to
18 refer to the 102.AAAD document and specifically Annex
19 C of that document that specifies use of AES
20 encryption if encryption is used on the
21 interoperability channels, and that would be the final
22 update to the rules that we recommend.

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1 MR. WILHELM: Glen, I gave you a copy
2 yesterday of a recommendation that the NCC had made to
3 the FCC on use of AES.

4 MR. NASH: Yeah.

5 MR. WILHELM: Should we make an additional
6 recommendation or will that suffice?

7 MR. NASH: This morning I gave you back an
8 annotated what you gave me.

9 MR. WILHELM: That was the 902 standard, I
10 believe.

11 MR. NASH: Right. I also gave you the
12 other and you made notes on it because I don't have it
13 anymore. It's right in front of you.

14 MR. WILHELM: I'm not being obstinate.

15 MR. NASH: It's in front. It's in front
16 of the stack you're looking at. No. I can see it.

17 MR. WILHELM: I credit Glen with better
18 eyesight than me. The one right in front of me, I
19 see.

20 (Laughter.)

21 MR. WILHELM: All right. Yes, I recall
22 it, Glen. Thank you. That will be an editorial

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1 change. It will not be necessary to put it out for
2 comment.

3 And seeing this is in color, I trust you
4 can see my red face in the screen.

5 (Laughter.)

6 MR. NASH: And that concludes my report.

7 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Thank you, Mr. Nash.

8 Sergeant Powell.

9 SGT. POWELL: I'd just like -- turn the
10 gain down a little bit. Here we go -- I'd like to
11 make a comment having followed the TIA process for the
12 902 series. We saw something happen there that I've
13 never see in TIA standards processes before, and that
14 is such a rapid movement with a real interest at
15 having these standards developed quickly yet with
16 thorough discussion and thorough input by the
17 manufacturing community.

18 And in talking with some of the folks at
19 TIA, there were some comments made that this was the
20 fastest standards effort in our industry that they had
21 ever seen, and I think we owe a big debt of gratitude
22 to TIA to accomplish what they did in such a short

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1 time.

2 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Well taken. I
3 agree. We sort of put the task to them, and they
4 responded very, very well to the needs of the NCC and
5 to the public safety community and to the FCC. So I
6 endorse your comment.

7 Okay. The Implementation Committee report
8 is going to be coming from Tom Tolman.

9 MR. TOLMAN: Good morning. Ted Dempsey
10 was unable to make it we learned at midnight -- what
11 was it? -- the night before last. So we were
12 scrambling.

13 We also, as Glen mentioned, we weren't
14 able to beat his record, but it was pretty short.

15 The primary focus of yesterday's session,
16 for those who were in attendance, was focusing on some
17 supplemental information for the RPC guide book. The
18 RPC guide book has already been distributed to the 55
19 regions. So the hard copies have been delivered, and
20 the plan is that any iterations or changes or
21 appendices that would come up between now and within
22 the next one, two, three years or whenever, we will do

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1 that in E version.

2 When I say "we," referring to the NPSTC
3 support office.

4 So within that, we understand that we're
5 under the gauntlet to have our appendices and our
6 sample letters presented. I can hand down if you want
7 the raw copies here for a quick first look or we can
8 wait until we're ready to present the modifications.
9 However you want to do that.

10 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: I think it would be
11 helpful if you could pass out what you got.

12 MR. TOLMAN: Okay. Starting with Appendix
13 AA, this will be a sample notification by RPC to
14 secondary TV stations. This is a notification of
15 commencement of the planning process, simply letting
16 them know.

17 And, by the way, these are new and, again,
18 will be added to the RPC guidebook.

19 What will be called Appendix AB will be a
20 new sample cover letter to adjacent region channels,
21 the basic cover letter for concurrence.

22 Appendix AC, again, new, a new addition,

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1 will be a list of 700 narrow band low power
2 frequencies subject to the RPC administration. Now,
3 we had some discussions yesterday in the subcommittee
4 meeting that there will be changes with that, and
5 Betty has them. Betty may have the modified version
6 there. So I'll keep this one.

7 Next up, and again, this is new, at the
8 request of the subcommittee, that there be an Appendix
9 V that is simply frequently asked questions, and we
10 know that that is dynamic and will probably grow, but
11 frequently asked questions, Appendix V.

12 The next appendices will be the
13 interregional coordination procedures and procedures
14 for the resolution of disputes, dispute resolution.
15 This will be Appendix W.

16 Another one, Appendix Y will be as a
17 sample waiver language for waiver of consent from the
18 adjacent region when the adjacent region is unformed,
19 and we know that there are still some out there that
20 simply haven't even formed.

21 And then Appendix Z, which will be a
22 sample adjacent region concurrence letter, just the

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1 basic region concurrence letter, very short and basic.

2 And then the last item, and this is in the
3 section under "Guidelines," in the voluntary section,
4 that is, the suggested methods, we know that with
5 regard to interoperability channels, those are
6 requirements.

7 We had some discussion yesterday about --
8 and I'll pass this one down, too -- Item 13 dealing
9 with plan modifications, what constitutes a major plan
10 modification and what constitutes a minor plan
11 modification.

12 The reason and the purpose of spelling
13 this out is to try and maintain some flexibility, to
14 try and minimize the paper work and keep it easy and
15 minimize confusion.

16 Also within our group, and again, the
17 Implementation Committee has a connection, if you
18 will, to the NPSTC, the National Public Safety
19 Telecommunications Council, in a number of ways. One
20 of those is through the pre-coordination database
21 that's been under development for over three years
22 now, and as an update with that, the system is on line

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1 and has been working. Twenty have been trained, that
2 is, 20 RPC chairs have come to our location at the
3 University of Denver where the system resides and have
4 been trained. And as of next week, 22 regions will
5 have been trained.

6 Contained within that program piece is
7 some funding that again goes through the NPSTC Support
8 Office to assist the RPCs, the Regional Planning
9 Committee, groups. Ninety-seven thousand five hundred
10 dollars has been distributed to each of those regions.

11 In other words, we have funded \$2,500 to each of
12 those regions to assist them in the planning process.

13 There are two grants, two of those grants
14 left for this year. I can also say that for '04 we
15 have a strong commitment through our funding support
16 resource, which is NIJ, National Institute of Justice,
17 strong commitment that this portion of the funding
18 will continue on.

19 One other comment through the DTV
20 transition Chair, David Eierman had made note
21 yesterday that after seven years only 50 percent of
22 the DTV transition has taken place, are on the air.

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1 That is essentially it.

2 Yes, Marilyn.

3 MS. WARD: I have on my NPSTC hat.

4 We also would like for a couple of things
5 to happen. One is to make a recommendation, again,
6 about the use of that database; that it is running and
7 that we make some comment. It's an outstanding issue,
8 but we jog that back up to a required use by the RPCs.

9 And the other half of that is for your
10 group to recommend that we make a comment about the IP
11 database, too, that will be coming out.

12 MR. TOLMAN: Okay.

13 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: How should we handle
14 that? Do we need recommendation language from
15 Implementation Subcommittee?

16 MS. WARD: We were asked to provide like a
17 paragraph or a couple of sentences. I think that we
18 have to act on the concept here now, but then provide
19 some language.

20 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: The pre-coordination
21 database I think everybody is familiar with, but the
22 IP database, could you explain what that is?

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1 MS. WARD: Do you want to do that from
2 your committee statement?

3 MR. TOLMAN: This actually was launched
4 and, John Powell, where are you? There he is, right
5 here.

6 That consent was launched out of his
7 committee. This is a -- perhaps you want to come to
8 the mic and offer the details of it.

9 SGT. POWELL: As the Interoperability
10 Subcommittee looked at the use of the low speed data
11 channels, it became apparent to us that we needed some
12 way of addressing these units in the field so that
13 they could be used. That was the original
14 requirement, and that came forth to the Steering
15 Committee, and NPSTC picked up the ball there looking
16 at, first of all, assigning a domain name, ps.gov,
17 which is underway now through the Justice Department.

18 And then secondly, looking further at some
19 definition of how this could work.

20 What has happened is that this project has
21 taken on a life of its own in that we are now
22 expanding it to meet some other needs that have been

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1 called to our attention from outside communities
2 beyond a simply address database. It will also
3 include the concept of authentication.

4 So as units roam across the country, there
5 is some way to authenticate who they are should they
6 appear on the scene of an incident, and to carry with
7 them or so that they can carry with them their
8 appropriate privileges, access to databases and things
9 like that that they would need in response to an
10 incident outside of their own jurisdiction.

11 We have secured funding from NIJ for a
12 feasibility study and potentially for some test beds
13 to look at that, possibly test beds in a project in
14 Kentucky, also one that's underway in the San
15 Francisco area that involves federal, state, and local
16 government.

17 In fact, we're meeting on that next week
18 potentially with a regional system in San Diego. So
19 there is some real benefit there, but it is also going
20 to be a major undertaking because of the nature of the
21 beast. We're talking about access to highly
22 controlled databases in some cases, plus potentially

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1 tens of thousands of units that we would need to house
2 in some kind of a data warehouse regionally and/or
3 nationally.

4 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Thank you. That's
5 helpful.

6 MR. TOLMAN: The only other item I have
7 in the way of announcement or a decision that was made
8 and agreed upon through this subcommittee that Working
9 Group 5 is what's called the funding working group,
10 and with the closure of the NCC, it was agreed that
11 this has enough value and importance that the work of
12 this group continue on and that it transition into and
13 become a part of a working group within NPSTC, and
14 that as been presented at the NPSTC governing board
15 and agreed upon and can even now be found at the NPSTC
16 site. There is a tab.

17 Again, what is it? It's finding the
18 right, because it's such a dynamic thing that keeps
19 changing the rules keep changing and the sources, but
20 with regard and only focusing on state and local,
21 public safety, communications related funding, there
22 needed to be a single point to be able to go to even

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1 if it meant providing a gateway to get into or
2 providing quick links to other sources, such as NIJ,
3 ODP, and other departments.

4 And that is essentially it. I don't know.
5 Did we want to talk -- oh, okay.

6 MS. WARD: Are you calling on me?

7 MR. TOLMAN: Yes. Marilyn.

8 MS. WARD: Marilyn Ward from NPSTC.

9 NPSTC was asked by the Implementation
10 Committee to discuss the possibility of becoming the
11 follow-on to the NCC. Because of the work that is
12 being done there and some of the other committees,
13 there has to be some kind of forum, and we would like
14 to involve everybody in the room and everyone who is
15 on the listservers in the further discussion.

16 So the voting group did meet and did
17 approve moving forward as a follow-on to the NCC.

18 So as part of that, we've asked the FCC to
19 provide us with the information of the attendees and
20 also to post our meetings with enough notice, and I'm
21 going to give you the next meeting information for the
22 NPSTC group.

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1 And we are talking within our group about
2 how do we structure this. So far we've come up with a
3 separate committee for manufacturers, a vendors
4 committee that would be asked to come up with a couple
5 of representatives for the governing board and another
6 committee like Tom's talking about, the funding group.

7 So the NPSTC group is beginning these
8 discussions. So over the next couple of months we'll
9 be continuing that, and they have agreed to and we
10 have received the funding from the AGILE Program from
11 NIJ to continue our work and try to continue to
12 resolve not only the issues within this area, but we
13 have subcommittees for 4.9 and the software defined
14 radios so that we all have a forum to stay together
15 and continue these discussions at all different
16 levels.

17 So that's been approved. If this group
18 will make that recommendation, we'd appreciate it.

19 MR. TOLMAN: And we have created, with the
20 permission of the Commission, on the table over there
21 is a sign-up sheet. If anybody who is not a part of
22 that -- Jean, is that over there? -- a sign-up sheet

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1 is over there on the table.

2 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Well, thank you very
3 much for that report.

4 Let me try to ascertain whether we have
5 consensus on a few different things here. Why don't
6 we take the last first, about NPSTC being the forum in
7 which discussions useful to the kinds of questions
8 that we've had here over the past several years,
9 having NPSTC serve as a successor forum?

10 NPSTC has a different status vis-a-vis the
11 FCC. You know, we've had the privileged position of
12 participating in a federal advisory committee
13 specifically chartered to deliver recommendations to
14 the FCC. I hope that the FCC will give equal regard
15 to what NPSTC produces in the coming months and years.

16 I think it is an appropriate place to
17 capture the energy and momentum that you all have
18 devoted to public safety and technology issues as they
19 have evolved. So this is something that I think would
20 be useful and invite any comment on that, first of
21 all.

22 Chief?

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1 MR. McEWEN: Well, I think it's important
2 to note that NPSTC was formed out of a previous FCC
3 advisory committee, BSWAC (phonetic), and for the same
4 purpose in a sense. It was to continue on the
5 discussion between public safety, industry, and all
6 other interested parties about the issues that were
7 raised in the BSWAC proceeding, and recommendations
8 were made to the FCC with the feeling that the world
9 is an ever changing place, and that the FCC should be
10 getting continuing advice from the public safety
11 community on those issues.

12 The thinking here is to do something very
13 similar, in other words, to expand NPSTC now to
14 continue on the discussion and to give what we hope is
15 the best advice to the FCC on changing technology and
16 other things that will happen in the future.

17 So I certainly endorse that concept, and
18 the idea is to encourage all the people in this room,
19 and the people that have been involved in the process
20 to continue to be involved in those discussions.

21 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Any other discussion
22 about that?

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1 (No response.)

2 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Then I'll take that
3 as an expression of consensus that we include that
4 recommendation in what we send to the FCC next week.

5 With respect to the documents that Mr.
6 Tolman passed out, these are sample documents in some
7 cases, a very useful set of frequently asked
8 questions. I don't propose that the Steering
9 Committee do wordsmithing on this, but if we could
10 have discussion about the concept of offering these
11 documents as samples, I would entertain those remarks
12 now.

13 MR. DEVINE: Steve Devine representing
14 through NPSTC the Regional Planning Committee, support
15 for ten Regional Planning Committees in the Midwest.

16 I just want to show support for within
17 some of the language recommended in the regional
18 guidelines for some of the plan modification language.

19 Right now the plan modification issues and
20 forthcoming issues for the regions on the ground is
21 still up in the air. Exactly how that is going to be
22 addressed, and there's some recommended language

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1 defining a major and a minor plan modification, that
2 will give the regions the ability to both achieve
3 spectrum efficiency, as well as effectiveness with the
4 channels as time wears on.

5 So we're hoping not to flood the
6 Commission with a group of plan amendments every time
7 we need to move channels to make the more efficient
8 usage.

9 So I just support the implementation of
10 the subcommittee in some of that recommended language
11 that's going forward.

12 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Good.

13 SGT. POWELL: John Powell.

14 And I'm talking now from Northern
15 California Planning Region, the experience that we're
16 having in our 700 plan meetings, and it's a follow-on
17 to what Steve just said.

18 We really need some flexibility with these
19 plan modifications, and I think in the NCC Steering
20 Committee providing the text on this to the Commission
21 we were very careful early on in maintaining maximum
22 flexibility for technology, being technology neutral

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1 really in doing these allocations in 25 kilohertz
2 slices.

3 And what we are certainly finding in our
4 region is that no one at this point is planning on
5 implementing anything greater than 12 and a half, and
6 it's going to require that we do some channel
7 shuffling on the fly, and to have to do that as a
8 major modification to the Commission every time we do
9 it is going to be not only a pain for us, but a paper
10 nightmare for the Commission because we meet every
11 month, and in theory we could be pushing to the
12 Commission every month the plan modification as we're
13 trying to swap these channels around getting that in
14 place.

15 So I think we should urge the Commission
16 to grant the planning committees the flexibility that
17 we gave in our initial recommendation to allow maximum
18 technology. We're going to need similar flexibility
19 to be able to push these channels within the regions
20 potentially out of the counties since we've done this
21 on a county basis into adjacent counties. Otherwise
22 we're going to have very inefficient spectrum use.

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1 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Well taken.

2 Any other comments?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Okay. Then we will
5 await your finalization of these documents. Thank you
6 very much for all of the hard work that you put in,
7 and I think the frequently asked questions is an
8 especially valuable contribution to the public at
9 large trying to understand what we're doing here.
10 Thank you.

11 Okay. That concludes our subcommittee
12 reports. Any other business?

13 Michael.

14 MR. WILHELM: I believe one comment.

15 MR. EIERMAN: David Eierman, Motorola.

16 The primary output of the implementation
17 subcommittee has been documents, and the writing group
18 -- I want to recognize the writing group, primarily
19 Bette Reinhart, who has drafted the documents,
20 maintained the documents, organized the documents, and
21 made sure that they got published. So I'd like to
22 personally thank Bette for her efforts in this on the

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1 NCC.

2 MS. WARD: I would add to that that she
3 puts on the "Communicator," which has been a really
4 good benefit for us electronically to send down into
5 the user groups. So we appreciate that, too.

6 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Bette, why don't you
7 stand and accept our thanks.

8 (Applause.)

9 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: She's got the
10 symbolic cradled computer there.

11 MR. McEWEN: That's Bob Schlieman's.

12 (Laughter.)

13 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: That's our very on
14 Statute of Liberty.

15 (Laughter.)

16 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Okay. Any other
17 business before we go to public comment?

18 (No response.)

19 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: So we have moved
20 through all of the official business that we had
21 scheduled to bring before the Steering Committee this
22 morning. Are there any general comments that people

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1 would like to make?

2 Marilyn.

3 MS. WARD: Marilyn Ward.

4 I just wanted to announce that the next
5 NPSTC meeting is going to be before the Radio Club
6 meeting, as we have been doing in New York. The Radio
7 Club meeting is on, we believe, the November 21st,
8 Friday before Thanksgiving. And last year we had it
9 at Brooklyn Marriott. We will see if they have enough
10 room there for us. We're going to be checking on that
11 pretty quickly. That's what we're shooting for.

12 And we'll be doing it probably that couple
13 of days beforehand. So look to your listserver for
14 it. That way you can mark it off now on your
15 calendars, the week before Thanksgiving, and we'll get
16 back with you with the exact dates. Probably
17 Wednesday and Thursday.

18 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Okay. Thank you.

19 Any other announcements, comments?

20 MR. KNIGHT: Kurt Knight, State of
21 Arizona, Region III.

22 I should have brought this up earlier, but

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1 I was just going back over Appendix AA that I think
2 the Implementation Subcommittee brought to you. I was
3 going to propose or offer the thought that possibly
4 the initial use of Appendix AA might be from the FCC
5 to those low power TV and TV translators rather than
6 directly from the regions.

7 That was my only comment.

8 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Okay.

9 MR. KNIGHT: And, again, maybe it should
10 have been earlier. I apologize.

11 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Jeanne Kowacski, do
12 you have any reaction about that prospect?

13 MS. KOWACSKI: I would just be speaking
14 right off the top of my head, but as I've sat through
15 these meetings and I've heard how the organizations,
16 especially the Regional Planning Committees, are
17 organizing themselves, I think it's far more valuable
18 to have that happen from region to local station.

19 We have licenses here. That's easy.
20 People can find that information, but I think the
21 personal touch that you get by having your regional
22 people become familiar and put faces on these things,

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1 that's helpful.

2 We certainly do not envision any problems
3 here. Our rules are very clear that these low powered
4 TV stations are secondary. So that's just the top of
5 my head.

6 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Okay. Mr. Knight?

7 MR. KNIGHT: I guess maybe it is that
8 personal touch that maybe I was trying to avoid on the
9 initial touch.

10 (Laughter.)

11 MR. KNIGHT: That possibly the FCC could
12 provide that initial touch.

13 SGT. POWELL: John Powell.

14 If I could just make a comment, too. This
15 came out of a discussion yesterday. The Commission's
16 licenses to these low power stations do note on the
17 license by footnote that they are secondary to full
18 power TV stations. There is no note on the license
19 that they are secondary to land mobile 700 megahertz
20 stations.

21 That would really be nice to correct
22 because I've heard of people talking to folks in the

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1 media bureau versus the wireless bureau getting
2 different answers as to secondary to whom.

3 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Okay. That's an
4 interesting point. Michael, could you undertake to
5 explore what process there might be to close the loop
6 on that?

7 Thank you.

8 Okay. Any final words?

9 (No response.)

10 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: All right. Then I
11 have a few.

12 Thank you very much for all that everyone
13 has done. You should all be very proud of what you
14 contributed over the last several years, and you know,
15 we've been working together now for over four years.
16 I was first approached about serving in this capacity
17 about five years ago, and it has been a wonderful
18 experience to work with you all, and I thank you very
19 much.

20 I won't say that I'll miss you because I
21 certainly intend to track you down wherever you are,
22 NPSTC or otherwise, and help you in any way I can as

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1 you move these issues forward.

2 I particularly want to thank the FCC
3 people who have worked with us this whole time. This
4 is just, believe it or not, one of many things that
5 Michael Wilhelm does, that D'Wana Terry does and
6 Jeanne Kowacski does, Jeanne Grimes, Joy Alford, Burg
7 Weintraub, Dan Oliver's staff here in the room that
8 has made everything so painless with our
9 presentations. It's just incredible the amount of
10 effort that all of these people have put in, the
11 diligence in bringing this all together through all of
12 the many steps that we've had to take along these
13 roads.

14 So thank you, all of you. Thank you very
15 much, Michael. It's been a privilege to work with you
16 and become your friend.

17 MR. WILHELM: Thank you.

18 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: And I look forward
19 to finding another excuse for us to work together in
20 the future.

21 Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

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1 MR. WILHELM: Let me say a few words.
2 First, the NCC has received outstanding support on its
3 listservers from the volunteer efforts of our Steering
4 Committee member Tim Loewenstein, and Tim has
5 generously offered to continue the NCC listserver, and
6 this will allow you to continue some of the dialogue
7 that you have entered into and has resulted in some of
8 your recommendations, and I'm sure we will hear from
9 you in rulemaking comments and in other filings before
10 the Commission.

11 The other thing I want to say is that the
12 FCC, the NCC, and I personally have been the
13 beneficiary of some outstanding leadership from Kathy
14 Wallman, and I urge you to recognize the effort and
15 skill that she has put into this position, and
16 congratulate Kathy on a successful five-year effort
17 with the NCC.

18 (Applause.)

19 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Well, thank you very
20 much.

21 MR. McEWEN: Do we have fireworks outside?

22 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: Oh, yes. The

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1 fireworks we'll have at the September meeting, Chief.

2 Okay?

3 (Laughter.)

4 CHAIRPERSON WALLMAN: September 10th. And
5 so that will be an opportunity to have a fond reunion
6 with no hard work to do. It will all be done by then.

7 Thank you very much. Have safe trips
8 home.

9 (Whereupon, at 10:46 a.m., the meeting in
10 the above-entitled matter was concluded.)

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