# The 11ax dominance complaint

The following complaint related to a claim of dominance in IEEE 802.11ax was received in June 2016 from Graham Smith, see <https://mentor.ieee.org/802.11/dcn/16/11-16-0784-00-0000-dominance-allegation-in-tgax.doc>.

The recommended actions were supported by the members of the IEEE 802 Executive Committee that is unconflicted on this issue during an meeting held in executive session on 8 November, 2016.

# Recommended mitigation actions for consideration by the EC

The investigating team recommend that

1. The IEEE 802.11WG chair treat the vote of all individuals affiliated with DensiFi SIG members as a single vote in WG and TG motions and letter ballots related to 802.11ax until such time as the SIG follows the “Best practice” level operation in ec document ec-16-0190-00 or the SIG is no longer active. This mitigation action is as specified in the IEEE 802 WG Policy and Procedure document section 3.4.1 item x).
2. Additional guidance information regarding the expectation and requirements of individual participation in standards development be developed and provided to 802.11 participants. The following proposal may serve as an example: <https://mentor.ieee.org/802-ec/dcn/16/ec-16-0149-00-00EC-2016-nov-proposed-addition-to-chair-s-guidelines-re-participation.pptx> .

## Industry Group guidance

EC document ec-16-0190-00 contains the guidance for Industry Groups

# Questions and Clarifications

1. Definition: Special measures: the act of counting the votes of multiple voting members as a single vote.

2. Confirm that the WG & TG special vote is only related to TGax items.

A: Confirmed

3. Does this affect the validity of individuals joining a sponsor ballot pool

A: No – sponsor ballot process is independent

4. Does this apply to WG letter ballots? If a member is subject to special measures during the first WG ballot, and the entity the member is affiliated with subsequently satisfies the exit criteria, is the member subject to special measures in subsequent recirculation ballots?

A (part 1): Yes, but only to TGax letter ballots.

A (part 2): No

5. Who determines when the exit criteria are met: EC decision or WG officer decision.

A: WG officer decision with notification to the EC

6. What evidence is necessary to determine that termination of a SIG has taken place?

A: A public declaration from a duly authorized individual of each entity identified below as a member of the SIG

7. Or, what evidence is necessary to determine that an entity is no longer subject to special measures?

As above.

8. Does when a company joined the SIG affect the measures applied to a company?

A: no

9. Is the list of entities subject to special measures that defined in doc 11-16/1519r0 at section 4.1 para 5 list items a) and b))? (18 in total)

A: Yes

10. Do special measures apply to all affiliates of an entity even if they have never been involved in any SIG meetings and do not have contact with the SIG.

A: Yes

# Personnel involved in report and recommendation

The investigating committee membership is:

Dorothy Stanley

Michael Montemurro

James Gilb (unconflicted IEEE 802 EC member)

IEEE internal and external counsel who provided legal advice on the report and recommendations (not present during executive session):

Michael Lindsay

Jonathan Wiggins

In addition to the investigating committee, the following unconflicted IEEE 802 EC members were present at the executive session:

Paul Nikolich

Clint Chaplin

Glens Parsons

David Law

Bob Heile

Richard Kennedy

Subir Das

Tim Godfrey

Kathyrn Bennett from IEEE SA Staff also attended the executive session.