ABSTRACT FOR ISART

Wireless telephony can assist National Security and
Emergency Preparedness (NS/EP) personnel by providing
emergency communications in times of crisis. During normal
traffic conditions, critical communications are handled in
the same manner as other traffic. However, to provide
emergency communications when traffic conditions degrade
due to severe network congestion, a priority service
capability, which includes features such as priority
queuing and routing, can be invoked until traffic
conditions return to acceptable levels. These features,
which do not yet exist in wireless networks, will not deny
service to any user nor impact 911 service. A priority
service capability would enable authorized users to have
priority access to required telecommunication services
during emergency events, and priority processing through
the network infrastructure to support recovery operations.
The NCS is working with the wireless industry to develop
standards to facilitate this service. These standards will
then be in commercial networks thus allowing local, state,
and federal NS/EP users to have access to this priority
service.

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