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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR UPLINK POWER CONTROL OF WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS

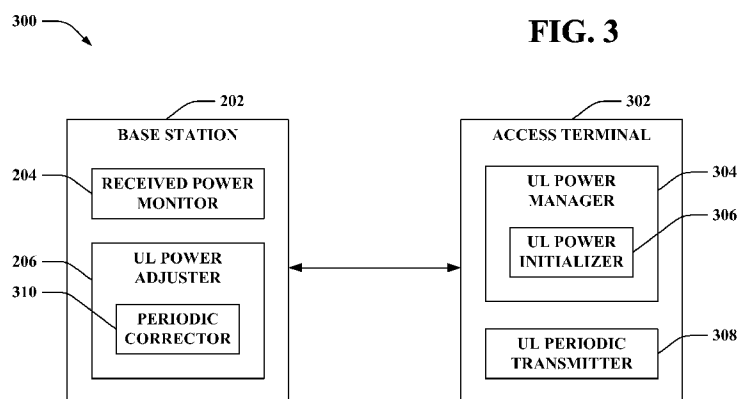


FIG. 3

(57) Abstract: Systems and methodologies are described that facilitate employing periodic closed loop power control corrections in a wireless communication environment. A periodic power control command can be sent over a downlink to control and/or correct an uplink power level employed by an access terminal. Each periodic power control command can be generated based upon an uplink periodic transmission sent from the access terminal. The periodic power control commands can be communicated via a Physical Downlink Control Channel (PDCCH) or in-band signaling. Moreover, access terminals can be grouped to enhance efficiency of downlink transfer of the periodic power control commands. The periodic power control commands can be halted upon access terminal uplink resources being deallocated. For instance, these resources can be deallocated after an inactivity period of the access terminal. Thereafter, the access terminal can initiate random access (e.g., leveraging open loop mechanisms) to resume periodic power control command transmission.

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