**REVISION REQUEST**

**DATE:** May 14th, 2024  
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**REQUESTED REVISION:**  
**STANDARD:** 802.3cx  
**CLAUSE NUMBER:** 90.7.1  
**CLAUSE TITLE:** FEC and PCS lane distribution functions  

**PROPOSED REVISION TEXT:**

Replace 'start of the FEC codeword' with 'start of the FEC codeword(s)'.

Perhaps better phrasing is possible. 'start of the (set of) FEC codeword(s)' seems even worse.

Worth also clarifying that 'PCS lane distribution' refers to 'Clause 82 block distribution towards PCS lanes'? I don't see a concise way of including such a clarification.

**RATIONALE FOR REVISION:**

The text (part of which which existed prior to 802.3cx) seems to have been written with Clause 82 block distribution & Clause 91 FEC in mind.

The subclause is meant to refer to the beginning of the cyclical function that causes the delay variation, i.e. the start of the Clause 82 block distribution and/or start of the FEC codeword.

The current text is fine for PHYs that have a single FEC engine. But for PHYs with multiple FEC engines, and thus multiple FEC codewords in parallel (such as 200G/400G/800G/1.6Tbps), the current language ('start of the FEC codeword') is awkward.

Also, 'PCS lane distribution' is ambiguous. Does it mean 66b block distribution towards PCS lanes as in clause 82, pre-FEC distribution as in Clause 119, symbol distribution towards PCS lanes like in Clause 119, or all of the above? I'm quite sure it meant as block distribution like in a Clause 82 PCS. OK to leave as-is?

Also note that PCS layers for 800Gbps and 1.6Tbps have two 'flows'. But 'flow' does not need to be mentioned here, since the 'start of the FEC codeword(s)' necessarily corresponds to the first 'flow'.

**IMPACT ON EXISTING NETWORKS:**

None. Just making language less awkward for recent PCS clauses like 200G/400G/800G/1.6Tbps.
Please attach supporting material, if any
Submit to:-  David Law, Chair IEEE 802.3
and copy:-  Adam Healey, Vice-Chair IEEE 802.3

At:-  E-Mail: stds-802-3-maint-req@ieee.org

For official use
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EDITORIAL/TECHNICAL
ACCEPTED/DENIED
BALLOT REQ'D YES/NO
COMMENTS:

For information about this Revision Request see -
http://www.ieee802.org/3/maint/requests/revision_history.html#REQ1433