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Source: IEEE 802.3 Working Group

To: Steven J. Trowbridge (sjtrowbridge@lucent.com)

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Subject: Communication to ITU-T SG15, 10 Gigabit Ethernet PHY Issues

Dear Mr. Trowbridge and Members of WP3/SG15,

The IEEE 802.3 Working Group appreciates the interest of SG15 in the 10GigE LAN PHY and thanks you for your liaison statement dated May 16–27, 2005.

Please note that the "10 Gigabit Ethernet" project (P802.3ae) concluded its work in July 2002. The modification of the rate of the existing 10GigE LAN PHY would imply the definition of a new port type, and would require the launch of a new project. Background information on the process involved to launch a new project (e.g., Call For Interest, Project Authorization Request, Ballot) can be found in Section 4 of our operating rules, available at the following URL:

      http://ieee802.org/3/rules/P802_3_rules.pdf

We would like to draw your attention to the criteria that must be met for a new project to be approved, which include a "broad market potential". This criterion is considered by Working Group members at the time of the Call For Interest and is evaluated when approving a Project Authorization Request. Outside this process, the Working Group does not take a position on the market potential of potential future projects.

The next plenary meeting of the IEEE 802.3 Working Group, when a Call For Interest could be scheduled is November 14–18, 2005 in Vancouver. (The request must be made by a voting member of IEEE 802.3 at least 35 days prior to the meeting.)

Regarding the changes that are suggested in your liaison letter, please note that past work has used IPG and preamble independent of its content to adjust for clock rate differences. Ongoing and future work in IEEE 802.3 and 802.1 relies on the existing specification of IPG and preamble in IEEE Std 802.3, and future work may modify the length of IPG and preamble independent of its content.`

We wish to thank the leadership and the members of ITU-T SG15 for the inquiry into our work programs and the continuation of the exchange of information on topics of common interest to our organizations. We look forward to close cooperation with SG15 when work begins on defining faster Ethernet line rates and we encourage SG15 to contribute to such a project.

Sincerely,

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