To: David Law, IEEE 802.3 WG Chair

Copy: Beth Kochuparabil, IEEE 802.3ck WG Chair

From: Larrie Carr, Officer, Gen-Z Consortium

Dear David,

Since its inception, the Gen-Z consortium has focused on creating an open systems interconnect designed to provide high-speed, low-latency memory-semantic access to data and devices using common interconnect. One of the strategies has been to leverage existing technologies within the Gen-Z specifications to simplify development and adoption.

Gen-Z has focused on serial interconnects like Ethernet and PCIe as they are commonly found within the same ecosystem. By leveraging these technologies, Gen-Z allows its members to use existing "off-the-shelf" SerDes technology to implement their solutions.

The Gen-Z PHY workgroup has publicly released many PHY specifications including definitions for 25G and 50G interfaces. The PHY work group intends to leverage the IEEE 802.3ck specification for the upcoming Gen-Z 100G fabric and local PHY specifications.

The Gen-Z consortium would like to establish a liaison with the IEEE 802.3ck workgroup to exchange technical data pertaining to:

1. Electrical characteristics of 803.2ck links to so that the Gen-Z PHY workgroup can use the channel loss budgets and bit error rate targets develop Gen-Z specific features like low-latency FEC.

2. Allow Gen-Z consortium members within IEEE membership to have access to results, meeting materials, drafts and tools of the 802.3ck work group. These materials may be discussed within the Gen-Z PHY workgroup meetings, emails and other correspondence

The Gen-Z consortium is open to exchanging other types of data that may be identified by the 802.3ck workgroup in the future. Our existing standards are publicly available on our website.

We look forward to your reply and the productive interchange between our organizations as we believe that this would benefit both organizations and the industry at large.

Sincerely,

/s/ Larrie Carr

Larrie Carr
Officer, Gen-Z Board of Directors