

IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group  
Liaison Communication

Source: IEEE 802.3 Working Group<sup>1</sup>

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From: David Law                      Chair, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group  
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Subject: Power over Ethernet (PoE) and Power over Data Lines (PoDL)

Approval: Agreed to at IEEE 802.3 interim teleconference meeting, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Ms Shuguang,

We understand that there is great industry interest in IEEE 802.3 Power over Ethernet (PoE) and Power over Data Lines (PoDL). We also understand that ITU-T has embarked on projects, including the recently published ITU-T Recommendation K.147, 'Ethernet port resistibility testing for overvoltages and overcurrents', which relate to specifics of standardized Ethernet technologies, and in particular PoE and PoDL.

We are concerned because, in our experience, there is considerable conflicting and inaccurate information in the industry regarding the specification for these technologies, including those derived from proprietary systems. Since IEEE 802.3 PoE and PoDL are definitively specified in the IEEE 802.3 standard and its amendments, it is our wish to minimize confusion.

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<sup>1</sup> This document solely represents the views of the IEEE 802.3 Working Group, and does not necessarily represent a position of the IEEE, the IEEE Standards Association, or IEEE 802.

A small group of IEEE 802.3 participants have performed a brief initial review of K.147 and have generated in excess of 80 comments on the document which are attached. As this is not a final review, we expect that we will be submitting further comments. We therefore respectfully request that you consider the comments submitted at your earliest convenience.

IEEE 802.3 notes that on the 31st May 2011 ITU-T SG5 sent a letter entitled 'Request for a liaison on Ethernet port isolation between ITU-T SG5 Home Networks Special Group and the IEEE 802.3 Group' [\[sp14-sg5-oLS-00076.pdf\]](#) requesting a liaison with IEEE 802.3 for each to understand the others' position and to mitigate potential conflicts for stakeholders.

We would like to remind you of our response at the time that the possible issuance of new ITU-T K-series Recommendations is of great interest to the IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group and that the IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group would like to request that any draft material of ITU-T K-series Recommendations concerning Ethernet port protection be made available for comment by the IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to your response.

Best regards,  
David Law  
Chair, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group