



Solana Foundation
Dammstrasse 16
6300 Zug, Switzerland

June 29, 2026

New Generic Top-Level Domain Program
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300
Los Angeles, California 90094

Re: Endorsement of Sol Naming Limited's Application for the .sol Community Top-Level Domain

Dear ICANN Review Panel:

I write on behalf of the Solana Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the growth, decentralization, and long-term stewardship of the Solana ecosystem, in formal support of Sol Naming Limited's application for the .sol community generic top-level domain.

The Solana Foundation supports Sol Naming Limited's application because .sol is the natural DNS representation of the Solana community, and because Sol Naming Limited has been selected to serve as the community's ICANN operating partner for the .sol TLD.

1. Foundation Role and Authority

The Solana Foundation is the primary stewardship organization for the Solana ecosystem. The Foundation supports developers, validators, infrastructure providers, application builders, regional community organizations, and other contributors who participate in and build on the Solana network.

Since its formation, the Foundation has served as a central coordinating institution for the Solana community. Its programs include ecosystem grants, developer support, validator and infrastructure initiatives, education, events, community growth, and strategic ecosystem partnerships. Through these activities, the Foundation is broadly recognized as the organization responsible for advancing the interests of the Solana ecosystem as a whole.

For that reason, the Foundation is the appropriate organization to designate the community's ICANN operating partner for the .sol TLD. The Foundation's endorsement of Sol Naming Limited reflects the Foundation's role as steward of the Solana name, brand, and ecosystem, and is consistent with the Foundation's responsibility to act in the interests of the Solana community as a whole.

2. Decision Process

The Foundation's decision to support Sol Naming Limited followed a deliberate review of the ICANN new gTLD opportunity and the role that a Solana-aligned DNS namespace could play in the long-term development of the ecosystem.

In evaluating the appropriate path forward, the Foundation considered the importance of ensuring that any .sol application would be operated in a manner that is technically capable, ICANN-compliant, aligned with the Solana community, and responsive to the needs of both traditional DNS users and Solana-native participants.

The Foundation reviewed Sol Naming Limited's proposed structure, its ICANN and domain industry experience, its intended use of Identity Digital as Registry Services Provider, and its proposed community-based registration framework. Based on that review, the Foundation determined that Sol Naming Limited is the appropriate applicant and ICANN operating partner for the .sol community TLD.

This endorsement was approved by the Solana Foundation on October 25, 2024, following internal review and discussion among Foundation leadership and Director and President approval.

3. Rationale for Selecting Sol Naming Limited

The Foundation selected Sol Naming Limited because the .sol TLD requires more than conventional registry operation. It requires an operator capable of bridging the ICANN-administered DNS with the Solana ecosystem's existing identity, developer, wallet, application, and community infrastructure. Sol Naming Limited is well positioned to serve that role for several reasons. In practical terms, this means .sol would not simply be another DNS label. It would give Solana developers, wallet users, application builders, and ecosystem participants a globally recognized, browser-native identifier that can connect ordinary DNS use with Solana-native identity, applications, and on-chain interaction.

First, Sol Naming Limited is aligned with the Solana ecosystem and has been structured specifically to pursue and operate the .sol TLD for the benefit of the Solana community. Its role is not merely to operate a generic domain product, but to support a community namespace that reflects the identity and needs of Solana developers, validators, applications, users, and ecosystem participants.

Second, Sol Naming Limited has been structured to support .sol with web3-native infrastructure and blockchain-aligned product capabilities that are directly relevant to the Solana community and the intended use of .sol as a trusted namespace for Solana-aligned identity, applications, and ecosystem participation. The Solana community has long used naming, identity, wallets, applications, and on-chain interaction as core parts of its ecosystem. A successful .sol TLD should therefore be operated by a party that understands both the DNS and the decentralized web.

Third, Sol Naming Limited's leadership and advisors include individuals with substantial experience in the ICANN ecosystem and the domain name industry. That experience is important because the .sol TLD must be operated responsibly within ICANN's contractual, technical, policy, and compliance framework.

Fourth, Sol Naming Limited has engaged Identity Digital as its Registry Services Provider. Identity Digital is one of the most experienced registry services providers in the world and brings the operational infrastructure, DNS stability, abuse mitigation systems, compliance capabilities, and ICANN registry experience required for responsible operation of a community TLD.

The Foundation believes the combination of Sol Naming Limited's Solana alignment, web3-native infrastructure capabilities, domain industry and ICANN experience, and Identity Digital's registry operations capability is the right structure for .sol.

4. Community Representation

The Solana community is broad, global, and active. It includes open-source developers, validators, infrastructure providers, wallet providers, DeFi protocols, NFT and digital asset platforms, application builders, regional community organizations, grant recipients, users, creators, and other contributors.

The community is not defined by membership in a closed association or professional guild. It is an open internet and blockchain ecosystem, more similar to open-source and open internet infrastructure communities than to a traditional trade association. Participation remains open to anyone willing to build, validate, use, govern, educate, support, or otherwise contribute to the Solana ecosystem.

At the same time, the Solana community is real, identifiable, and organized. Its participants can be identified through developer activity, validator participation, ecosystem programs, regional community organizations, grants, public events, application usage, wallet usage, and on-chain activity. The Foundation's programs and relationships span these constituencies and are designed to support the community as a whole, not any single segment.

The Foundation's endorsement of Sol Naming Limited therefore represents the position of the Solana community as a whole. The Foundation believes .sol is the natural and established identifier for the Solana community and that delegation of .sol as an ICANN-administered community TLD will provide a trusted DNS namespace aligned with the community's identity, infrastructure, and long-term development. Delegation of .sol as an ICANN-administered community TLD would allow Solana participants to do something they cannot do today through blockchain naming alone: use a single human-readable identifier that resolves natively in standard web browsers, is recognized globally through the DNS, and can

also link to Solana-native identity, wallets, applications, and on-chain activity without requiring users to understand blockchain-specific infrastructure.

5. Community Registration Policies and Stewardship

The Foundation supports the operation of .sol as a community TLD subject to registration policies designed to preserve the relationship between the namespace and the Solana community.

Those policies should ensure that .sol registrations remain aligned with the purpose of the TLD and the interests of the Solana community, including legitimate Solana-aligned use cases such as developer projects, wallet and application identity, ecosystem participants, community initiatives, and other uses that support the Solana namespace as a trusted bridge between DNS and Solana-native infrastructure.

The Foundation further expects Sol Naming Limited to operate .sol in a manner that protects DNS stability, respects applicable ICANN policies, supports abuse mitigation, and preserves the integrity of the Solana community namespace.

6. Endorsement

For the reasons above, the Solana Foundation formally endorses Sol Naming Limited's application for the .sol community generic top-level domain and supports Sol Naming Limited's role as the community's ICANN operating partner for .sol.

The Foundation urges ICANN to approve Sol Naming Limited's application and looks forward to the successful delegation and operation of .sol for the benefit of the Solana community.

Sincerely,

Signed by:

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Lily Liu
President
Solana Foundation