



BENQI

Decentralized Research Technologies Inc
Oceania Business Plaza, 21st Floor, Punta Pacifica, Panama

29 July 2026

New Generic Top-Level Domain Program
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300
Los Angeles, California 90094
United States of America
Attn: Community Priority Evaluation Panel

Re: Letter of Support for Avax Naming Limited's Application for the .avax Community Top-Level Domain

Dear ICANN Review Panel:

I write on behalf of BENQI, an established decentralized finance protocol providing liquid staking and lending infrastructure on Avalanche, in support of Avax Naming Limited's application for the .avax community generic top-level domain.

1. Our Role in the Avalanche Community

BENQI is an active participant in the Avalanche ecosystem. We serve DeFi participants, users, and ecosystem contributors and support the continued growth, adoption, and development of Avalanche.

BENQI has operated continuously since 2021. It has facilitated billions of US dollars in transactions, served more than 100,000 unique wallet addresses, reached a historical peak total value secured of over US\$4 billion, and supports more than 500 independent validators that help secure the Avalanche network. BENQI is also the dominant liquid staking provider on Avalanche, accounting for approximately 97% of all liquid staking on the network, making it the primary platform used by individuals and institutions to stake AVAX while retaining access to their assets.

BENQI falls within the community identified in the application: a DeFi protocol on Avalanche network. Our users are Avalanche developers, applications, validators, and economically active participants — the same population the applicant proposes to serve. Measured against the community size stated in the application, BENQI's user base represents a meaningful portion of that community.

Within the Avalanche ecosystem we recognize the Avalanche Foundation as the principal organizing body and we participate in governance forums, ecosystem programs and developer initiatives.

2. Our Relationship with the Applicant

BENQI has no commercial, financial, or governance relationship with the applicant, and receives no consideration of any kind for this letter. This letter reflects our independent assessment of the application on its merits.

3. How This Support Was Decided

Avax Naming Limited provided BENQI with its application materials, including the proposed community registration policies governing registrant eligibility and name selection. Our team reviewed those materials, and the decision to submit this letter of support was taken in accordance with BENQI's internal governance.

4. Support for .avax

We support the recognition of .avax as the Avalanche community's ICANN-administered domain space. The .avax string is a natural and established identifier for the Avalanche community — it is the network's native asset ticker and the term community members use for themselves —, and its delegation as a community top-level domain would provide Avalanche developers, applications, users, and ecosystem participants with a trusted namespace in the global DNS. We are not aware of any other community with a comparable claim to the string.

We also support the Avalanche Foundation's endorsement of Avax Naming Limited as the applicant and ICANN operating partner for .avax.

5. Community Benefit

A community-aligned .avax TLD can help strengthen the Avalanche ecosystem's identity layer by connecting community-native applications, naming, wallets, users, and other ecosystem participants with the established DNS.

We believe this will benefit the Avalanche ecosystem by supporting discoverability, trust, interoperability, and community-aligned use of the .avax namespace. As a protocol serving active Avalanche users, this matters to us concretely: a namespace with verified community eligibility is a meaningful trust and safety improvement over an open one.

For these reasons, BENQI supports Avax Naming Limited's community-based application for the .avax community gTLD and its operation of the namespace on behalf of the Avalanche community.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this application.

Sincerely,



Dan Mgbor
Co-founder, Head of Operations
BENQI