**3GPP TSG-RAN WG3 #110-e R3-207060**

**2 – 12 November 2020**

Title: Reply LS on LS on signalling of satellite backhaul connection

Response to: LS on signalling of satellite backhaul connection (R3-206843/ S2-2008308)

Release: Release 17

Work Item: 5GSAT\_ARCH

Source: RAN3

To: SA2

Cc: RAN2, RAN1

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**Send any reply LS to: 3GPP Liaisons Coordinator,** [**mailto:3GPPLiaison@etsi.org**](mailto:3GPPLiaison@etsi.org)

Attachments: None

**1. Overall Description:**

RAN3 thanks SA2 for their LS in R3-206843/S2-2008308.

The LS from SA2 addresses the cases where satellite connectivity is used as backhaul between terrestrial RAN nodes and terrestrial CN nodes. RAN3 did not discuss the satellite backhaul during the NTN Study Item and this topic is out of scope of the on-going Rel-17 RAN Work Item. RAN3 is not able to provide specific characteristics of the network packet delay budget as requested by SA2 in point 3 and 4.

Then RAN3 is only able to provide the following general NG interface backhaul principles:

* According to TS 38.411, the support of any suitable layer 1 technique - like point-to-point or point-to-multipoint techniques - shall not be prevented;
* According to principles outlined in TS 38.401, NG-RAN interfaces are specified under the assumption that transport functions (TNL) are separate from NG-RAN and 5GC functions (RNL).

RAN3 believes that the principles outlined above should provide sufficient response to the questions in the LS.

**2. Actions:**

**To** **SA WG2.**

**ACTION:** RAN3 kindly asks SA2 to take the information above into account.

**3. Date of Next RAN3 Meetings:**

RAN3#111-e February 2020 Electronic meeting