3GPP TSG-RAN WG4 Meeting # 108bis R4-2317307

Xiamen, China, October 09 – October 13, 2023

**Title:** LS on SSB-less operation for Rel-18 NES

**Response to:** -

**Release:** Rel-18

**Work Item:** Netw\_Energy\_NR-Core

**Source:** RAN WG4

**To:** RAN WG2

**Cc:** -

**Contact Person:**

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**Attachments:**

**1. Overall Description:**

Under the release 18 work item on network energy saving, to enable SSB-less SCell operation, RAN4 agrees to introduce indication from NW to UE to indicate which cell is the reference cell. The reference cell means it is the timing reference and AGC source of SSB-less SCell. The reference cell shall have SSB and is not restricted to PCell. If the reference cell is an SCell, it should be an activated SCell. The details of the signalling are up to RAN2. RAN4 will continue to define “by default cell” as reference cell if the indication is not provided, and whether the reference cell and QCL source cell are different is still under discussion in RAN4.

RAN4 also has agreement on SSB-less SCell. If the UE is not provided with SSB configuration (absoluteFrequencySSB) nor SMTC configuration for the SCell, this cell is regarded as SSB-less SCell.

**2. To RAN WG2 group.**

**ACTION:** RAN4 respectfully ask RAN2 to take the above agreements into account and design corresponding signaling.

**3. Date of Next TSG-RAN WG4 Meetings:**

TSG-RAN4 Meeting #109 Nov. 13 – Nov. 17, 2023 Chicago, US

TSG-RAN4 Meeting #110 Feb. 26 – Mar. 3, 2024 Athens, GR