3GPP TSG-RAN WG2 Meeting #114 Electronic R2-210xxxx

Elbonia, 19 – 27 May 2021

**Agenda item: 5.4.1.1**

**Source: Apple**

**Title: DRAFT- Summary of [AT113-e][005][NR15] Connection Control II (Apple)**

**WID/SID: NR\_newRAT-Core**

**Document for: Discussion and Decision**

# 1 Introduction

This document reflects the content and outcome of the following email discussion:

* [AT114-e][005][NR15] Connection Control II (Apple)

Scope: Treat R2-2105503, R2-2106377, R2-2106378, R2-2106190, R2-2106191, R2-2105768, R2-2106414, R2-2106415, R2-2106416, R2-2105089, R2-2105090, R2-2105092, R2-2106135

Phase 1, determine agreeable parts, Phase 2, for agreeable parts Work on CRs / LS.

Intended outcome: Report and Agreed CRs / LS.

Deadline: Schedule A

***NOTE: Schedule A*** *(a schedule for main session for many offline dicussion):*

*A first round with* ***Deadline for comments Friday May 21 1000 UTC*** *to settle scope what is agreeable etc (phase 1).*

*A pre-final round with* ***Deadline for any functional and/or scope comments Wednesday May 26 1200 UTC.*** *At this point, non-agreeable parts shall be removed/excluded. (phase 2)*

*A final round (last 24h) for checking and smaller simplification / removal comments only including agreeable parts, with Deadline* ***EOM*** *(at this point all outcome documents need to be available in inbox with tdoc numbers).*

*Additional check-points etc if needed are defined by the Rapporteur. Offline discussion rapporteur must notify chairman / session chair if on-line comeback discussion is needed, if discussion doesn’t converge etc.*

The discussion covers the following documents from AI 5.4.1.1 Connection control:

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| DC Related - SCG failure  [R2-2105503](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2105503.zip) Further clarification on random access problem ZTE Corporation, Sanechips discussion Rel-15 NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2106377](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106377.zip) CR on random access problem of MCG ZTE Corporation, Sanechips CR Rel-15 38.331 15.13.0 2692 - F NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2106378](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106378.zip) CR on random access problem of MCG ZTE Corporation, Sanechips CR Rel-16 38.331 16.4.1 2693 - A NR\_newRAT-Core, NR\_unlic-Core  [R2-2106190](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106190.zip) Correction on SCG failure reporting procedure Huawei, HiSilicon CR Rel-15 38.331 15.13.0 2680 - F NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2106191](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106191.zip) Correction on SCG failure reporting procedure Huawei, HiSilicon CR Rel-16 38.331 16.4.0 2681 - A NR\_newRAT-Core  DC Related – SMTC and SCG change during handover  [R2-2105768](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2105768.zip) Clarification on NR-DC procedures Ericsson discussion Rel-15 NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2106414](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106414.zip) Clarification on leftover issues for NR-DC Huawei, HiSilicon discussion Rel-15 NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2106415](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106415.zip) Correction on PSCell SMTC timing reference in NR-DC Huawei, HiSilicon CR Rel-15 38.331 15.13.0 2694 - F NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2106416](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106416.zip) Correction on PSCell SMTC timing reference in NR-DC Huawei, HiSilicon CR Rel-16 38.331 16.4.0 2695 - A NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2105089](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2105089.zip) Clarification on the Timing Reference of PSCell SMTC Configuration Apple, Xiaomi, ZTE Corporation, Sanechips, Samsung, CATT, Ericsson, OPPO CR Rel-16 38.331 16.4.1 2598 - F NR\_newRAT-Core, TEI16  [R2-2105090](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2105090.zip) Clarification on NR HO without SCG Configuration Change Apple discussion Rel-15 NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2105092](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2105092.zip) DRAFT LS on the NR HO without SCG Configuration Change Apple LS out Rel-15 NR\_newRAT-Core To:RAN4  [R2-2106135](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106135.zip) Clarification on NR HO without SCG Configuration Change Apple CR Rel-16 37.340 16.5.0 0267 - F NR\_newRAT-Core, TEI16 |

# 2 Contact Points

Respondents to the email discussion are kindly asked to fill in the following table.

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| Company | Name | Email Address |
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# 3 Discussion

## 3.1 DC Related - SCG failure

### 3.1.1. Issue-1: RACH failure detection while T304 is running

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| The contributions and CRs related to this topic are:  [R2-2105503](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2105503.zip) Further clarification on random access problem ZTE Corporation, Sanechips discussion Rel-15 NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2106377](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106377.zip) CR on random access problem of MCG ZTE Corporation, Sanechips CR Rel-15 38.331 15.13.0 2692 - F NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2106378](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106378.zip) CR on random access problem of MCG ZTE Corporation, Sanechips CR Rel-16 38.331 16.4.1 2693 - A NR\_newRAT-Core, NR\_unlic-Core |

The contribution (5503) provides the clarification on the random access failure detection of MCG and SCG in NR-DC while T304 is running, and the contribution also propose to apply the same operation on the LBT failure case.

* **Random access problem of MCG**

The contribution (R2-2105503) provides the following observations and proposals. And it proposed to agree the R15/R16 RRC CRs for the clarification.

* **Observation**

*Observation 1: According to the current NR specs, the UE shall not declare MCG RLF upon random access problem indication from MCG MAC while T304 is running. However, since T304 can be configured for both MCG and SCG, it’s not clear whether it means T304 of MCG, T304 of SCG, or both two cases.*

*Observation 2: In case that the UE detects random access problem indication from MCG MAC while T304 of SCG is running (i.e. during reconfiguration with sync of SCG), the random access problem in MCG is most probably triggered due to the radio link problem of MCG, e.g. out-of-sync uplink. So it’s preferred that the UE declares MCG RLF immediately to trigger the RRC re-establishment for MCG link recovery.*

* **Proposal**

*Proposal 1: RAN2 to clarify that the UE shall not declare MCG RLF upon random access problem indication from MCG MAC while T304 of the corresponding MAC is running, i.e. T304 of MCG is running, but not for T304 of SCG is running.*

*Proposal 2: RAN2 to clarify that the UE shall not declare MCG RLF upon consistent uplink LBT failure indication from MCG MAC while T304 of the corresponding MAC is running, i.e. T304 of MCG is running, but not for T304 of SCG is running.*

* **R15/R16 RRC CR**

*Proposal 3: Agree the CRs in [2][3] (*[*R2-2106377*](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106377.zip)*,* [*R2-2106378*](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106378.zip)*).*

#### **Question 3.1.1-1 (MCG RACH/LBT Failure): do you agree with the proposal 1/2 of R2-2105503?**

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| Company | Agree or not? | Comments |
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#### **Question 3.1.1-2 (MCG RACH/LBT Failure): do you agree with the R15/R16 RRC CRs (proposal 3)?**

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* **Random access problem of SCG**

The contribution (R2-2105503) provides the following observations and proposals. And it proposed to agree the R15/R16 RRC CRs for the clarification.

* **Observations**

*Observation 3: According to the current specs, upon detection of random access problem indication from MCG MAC while T304 is running, the UE shall not declare MCG RLF and can continue trying random access procedure until T304 expiry. However, if the UE detects random access problem indication from SCG MAC while T304 is running, the UE shall initiate SCG failure information procedure to report random access problem to the NW. The UE behaviour during reconfiguration with sync of SCG is not aligned with that during reconfiguration with sync of MCG.*

*Observation 4: Different companies have different implementations and understanding on the UE behaviour upon detection of random access problem from SCG MAC while T304 of SCG is running, i.e. whether to continue random access procedure or not. And no consensus was reached at last meeting.*

* **Proposals**

*Proposal 4: In Rel-15, different UE behaviour can be supported upon detection of random access problem indication from the SCG MAC while T304 of SCG is running, e.g. the UE may not declare SCG RLF and continue trying random access procedure until T304 expiry in SCG.*

*Proposal 5: From Rel-16, RAN2 clarify an unified UE behaviour upon detection of random access problem indication from the SCG MAC while T304 of SCG is running:*

* *Option 1: The UE behaviour should be aligned with the current spec, i.e. the UE shall declare SCG RLF and initiate SCG failure information procedure.*
* *Option 2: The UE behaviour should be changed as proposed in [4], i.e. the UE shall not declare SCG RLF, and continue trying random access procedure until T304 expiry in SCG.*

*Proposal 6: If the clarification is made for proposal 5, the similar clarification is also applicable to the UE behaviour upon detection of consistent uplink LBT failure indication from the SCG MAC while T304 of SCG is running.*

(Rapp NOTE: proposal 6 is to propose the same UE behavior on the LBT failure detection during the T304 running.)

#### **Question 3.1.1-3 (SCG RACH/LBT Failure):do you agree with the proposal 4/5/6 of R2-2105503?**

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| Company | Agree or not? | Comments |
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### 3.2.1. Issue-2: SCG failure reporting procedure (only if SCG is not suspended)

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| The contributions and CRs related to this topic are:  [R2-2106190](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106190.zip) Correction on SCG failure reporting procedure Huawei, HiSilicon CR Rel-15 38.331 15.13.0 2680 - F NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2106191](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106191.zip) Correction on SCG failure reporting procedure Huawei, HiSilicon CR Rel-16 38.331 16.4.0 2681 - A NR\_newRAT-Core |

The R15/R16 CRs clarify that the SCG failure information procedure is only triggered when the SCG is not suspended, which was agreed in RAN2#113bis-e meeting as follow:

* Upon initiating SCG failure information procedure, if T310/T312 for the PSCell expires before the SCG link is recovered, UE does not trigger another SCG failure information procedure

The change of the CR is in section 5.3.10.3, and copied below for your reference.

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#### **Question 3.1.2: do you agree with the R15/R16 CRs (R2-2106190, R2-2106191)?**

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## 3.2 DC Related - SMTC and SCG change during handover

In RAN2#113bis-e meeting, two issues were raised for NR-DC clarification and non-consensus was achieved during the meeting. Therefore, they were postponed to this RAN2 meeting. There are several contributions are focusing on the two issues.

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| [R2-2103859](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_113bis-e\Docs\R2-2103859.zip) NR-DC Clarification Apple discussion Rel-15 NR\_newRAT-Core, TEI15   * [005] noted * [005] reconfigurationWithSync is not mandatory in SCG config for handover without SCG change (no spec changes needed). * [005] Postponed discussion: whether in the case of HO without SCG change, if SCG reconfigurationWithSync is not included, the UE continues the transmission on SG during the handover or not or whether this can be left to UE implementation, and whether there is a need for TS clarification. * [005] Postponed: CRs for UE timing at NR-DC handover. Majority view seems to be that UE should apply the target PCell timing as the PSCell SMTC timing reference during the NR-DC handover |

### 3.2.1. Issue 1: PSCell SMTC timing reference during the NR-DC handover

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| The contributions and CRs related to this topic are:  [R2-2105768](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2105768.zip) Clarification on NR-DC procedures Ericsson discussion Rel-15 NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2106414](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106414.zip) Clarification on leftover issues for NR-DC Huawei, HiSilicon discussion Rel-15 NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2106415](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106415.zip) Correction on PSCell SMTC timing reference in NR-DC Huawei, HiSilicon CR Rel-15 38.331 15.13.0 2694 - F NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2106416](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106416.zip) Correction on PSCell SMTC timing reference in NR-DC Huawei, HiSilicon CR Rel-16 38.331 16.4.0 2695 - A NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2105089](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2105089.zip) Clarification on the Timing Reference of PSCell SMTC Configuration Apple, Xiaomi, ZTE Corporation, Sanechips, Samsung, CATT, Ericsson, OPPO CR Rel-16 38.331 16.4.1 2598 - F NR\_newRAT-Core, TEI16 |

All proposals in the contributions on this topic have the same proposal, i.e. UE should apply the **target** PCell timing as the PSCell SMTC timing reference during the NR handover with PSCell addition/change.

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| Tdoc number | Proposals |
| R2-2105768 | Proposal 1: For NR to NR handover with NR PSCell addition/change, the timing reference of the PSCell SMTC configuration is based on the target PCell. |
| R2-2106414 | Proposal 2: The UE should apply the target PCell timing as the PSCell SMTC timing reference during the NR handover with PSCell addition and PSCell change (including SN change). |
| R2-2105089 | Clarify that during the NR handover with PSCell addition/change, if NW provides the PSCell SMTC configuration based on PCell timing, UE should apply the target PCell timing as the reference. |

Therefore, we can first confirm the following proposal:

**Proposal: UE applies the target PCell timing as the PSCell SMTC timing reference during the NR handover with PSCell addition/change.**

#### **Question 3.2.1-1: Do you agree to clarify the above proposal in spec ( i.e. target PCell timing as the reference)?**

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| Company | Agree or not? | Comments |
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In current spec, NW can configure the PCell timing based PSCell SMTC configuration with two parameters, so the clarification should cover the two places.

1. **Configuration 1: RRCReconfiguration -> targetCellSMTC-SCG**

R2-2105089 provides the clarification in the field description of targetCellSMTC-SCG as follows:

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#### **Question 3.2.1-2: Do you agree the change in R2-2105089 for targetCellSMTC-SCG?**

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| Company | Agree or not? | Comments |
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1. **Configuration 2: secondaryCellGroup -> SpCellConfig -> reconfigurationWithSync->smtc**

Both R2-2105089 and R2-2106415/ R2-2106416 provide the clarification in the field description of smtc as follows.

* Option 1: The change in R2-2105089

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* Option 2: The change in R2-2106415/ R2-2106416

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The difference between two options is that in Option 2 the NW can use the smtc parameter to provide the PCell timing based PSCell SMTC configuration for NR PSCell change case.

According to current field description (copied below), NW only provide the PCell timing based *smtc* configuration for NR PSCell addition case, not for PSCell change case.

Therefore, in rapporteur’s view, the change in Option 2 is not only a timing clarification, but also to extend the applicable case to cover PSCell change. The change may introduce the NBC issue.

Graphical user interface, text, application, email

Description automatically generated

#### **Question 3.2.1-3: Do you agree the Option 1 (R2-2105089) or Option 2 (R2-2106415/ R2-2106416) for the clarification on smtc configuration?**

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| Company | Option 1 or Option2? | Comments |
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### 3.2.2. Issue 2: HO with SCG but without SCG reconfigurationWithSync configuration

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| The contributions and CRs related to this topic are:  [R2-2105768](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2105768.zip) Clarification on NR-DC procedures Ericsson discussion Rel-15 NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2106414](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106414.zip) Clarification on leftover issues for NR-DC Huawei, HiSilicon discussion Rel-15 NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2105090](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2105090.zip) Clarification on NR HO without SCG Configuration Change Apple discussion Rel-15 NR\_newRAT-Core  [R2-2105092](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2105092.zip) DRAFT LS on the NR HO without SCG Configuration Change Apple LS out Rel-15 NR\_newRAT-Core To:RAN4  [R2-2106135](file:///D:\Documents\3GPP\tsg_ran\WG2\TSGR2_114-e\Docs\R2-2106135.zip) Clarification on NR HO without SCG Configuration Change Apple CR Rel-16 37.340 16.5.0 0267 - F NR\_newRAT-Core, TEI16 |

In last RAN2 meeting, during the NR-DC clarification discussion, it was agreed that NW reconfigurationWithSync is not mandatory in SCG config for handover without SCG change (no spec changes needed). But the UE behavior on SCG during the handover with SCG but without SCG reconfigurationWithSync configuration is not clear.

The proposals on this topic in this meeting are summarized in the following table.

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| Tdoc number | Proposals |
| R2-2105768 | Proposal 2: RAN2 confirms that, in the case of HO without SCG change, in case SCG reconfigurationWithSync is not included the UE continues the transmission on SCG during the handover (no change is required in TS 37.340). |
| R2-2106414 | Proposal 1: The UE can continue SCG transmission during handover without SCG change if SCG reconfigurationWithSync is not included. |
| R2-2105090 | Observation 1: There is no description to request UE to stop the transmission/reception on SCG link for the handover without SCG sync configuration.  Observation 2: UE’s transmission on SCG may be interrupted due to the RF retuning according to the target configuration for the handover without SCG sync configuration.  Proposal 1: Confirm that reconfigurationWithSync in SCG configuration is mandatory for the LTE handover with NR PSCell in EN-DC.  Proposal 2: For the handover without SCG sync configuration, it’s up to UE implementation to stop or continue the SCG transmission during the handover period.  *If proposal 2 is not agreeable, we should consult with RAN4 on the SCG transmission and interruption requirement [1].*  Proposal 2a: Send LS to RAN4 to consult the UE requirement on the SCG link during the handover without SCG sync configuration.  Proposal 3: Agree the TS 37.340 CR to clarify the UE operation during the handover without SCG sync configuration. |

**<HO with SPCell configuration in EN-DC>**

In last RAN2 meeting, it just discussed the HO without SCG sync configuration issue for NR-DC. In R2-2105090, it is proposed to confirm the SCG sync configuration is mandatory in HO with PSCell in EN-DC according to the LTE RRC spec description as follow.

**Proposal 1: Confirm that *reconfigurationWithSync* in SCG configuration is mandatory for the LTE handover with NR PSCell in EN-DC.**

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| 5.3.1.3 Connected mode mobility  ……  Before sending the handover message to the UE, the source eNB prepares one or more target cells. The source eNB selects the target PCell. The source eNB may also provide the target eNB with a list of best cells on each frequency for which measurement information is available, in order of decreasing RSRP. The source eNB may also include available measurement information for the cells provided in the list. The target eNB decides which SCells are configured for use after handover, which may include cells other than the ones indicated by the source eNB. If an SCG is configured, handover involves either SCG release or either SCG change (in case of DC) or an NR SCG reconfiguration with sync and key change (in case of EN-DC and NGEN-DC). In case the UE was configured with (EN-) DC or NGEN-DC, the target eNB indicates in the handover message whether the UE shall release the entire (NR) SCG configuration. Upon connection re-establishment, the UE releases the entire SCG configuration except for the DRB configuration, while E-UTRAN in the first reconfiguration message following the re-establishment either releases the DRB(s) or reconfigures the DRB(s) to MCG DRB(s).  …… |

#### **Question 3.2.2-1: Do you agree that reconfigurationWithSync in SCG configuration is mandatory for the LTE handover with NR PSCell in EN-DC?**

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| Company | Agree or not? | Comments |
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**<UE operation on SCG for NR-DC without SCG reconfigurationWithSync config >**

The analysis in all contributions indicate that according to current RAN2 spec UE may continue the transmission on SCG during the HO without SCG reconfigurationWithSync configuration, But in R2-2105090, it provides some examples which may lead to the serving frequency change and UE RF retuning, and UE may interrupt the SCG transmission for some time due to the RF retuning.

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| * *Example#1: Intra-node handover to change the PCell frequency*   *UE supports the bandcombination is {CC1, CC2, CC3}.*  *UE’s source configuration is {PCell-CC1, PSCell-CC3}, and NW performs the intra-node handover to change the PCell from CC1 to CC2, and the target configuration is {PCell-CC2, PSCell-CC3}.*  *Since the MN PCell change doesnot impact the SCG configuration, NW may trigger the NR handover without SCG sync configuration.*  *But in this case, UE’s RF chain may need to retune from {CC1,CC3} to {CC2, CC3}, which may lead to the interruption on SCG link.*   * *Example#2: intra-node handover to add/release MCG SCells*   *UE supports the bandcombination is {CC1, CC2, CC3}.*  *UE’s source configuration is {MCG PCell-CC1, MCG SCell-2, SCG PSCell-CC3}, and NW performs the intra-node handover to delete the MCG SCell, then the target configuration is {PCell-CC1, PSCell-CC3}.*  *Since the release of MCG SCell doesnot impact the SCG configuration, NW may provide the handover without SCG sync configuration.*  *But in this case, UE’s RF chain may need to retune from {CC1,CC2,CC3} to {CC1, CC3}, , which may lead to the interruption on SCG link.* |

#### **Question 3.2.2-1: Do you agree the UE may stop the SCG transmission during the HO without SCG reconfigurationWithSync, e.g. due to the RF retuning according to the configuration?**

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#### **Question 3.2.2-2: Do you agree to send LS to RAN4 to consult the UE requirement on the SCG link during the handover without SCG sync configuration?**

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| Company | Agree or not? | Comments |
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#### **Question 3.2.2-3: Do you agree to clarify the agreed UE operation on SCG during the MR-DC HO in the spec, as proposed in R2-2106135?**

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| Company | Agree or not? | Comments |
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# 4 Conclusion

TBD.