



PERMITTING DECISION SUMMARY

Unicorn 2

Alba Orbital Deutschland UG

1. Alba Orbital Deutschland UG (Alba Orbital) is a German satellite company that provides brokering and integration services for satellite operators wishing to launch small payloads called 'PocketQubes'. PocketQubes are typically 50mm x 50mm x 50mm in size and have a mass of no more than 0.25kg.
2. Unicorn 1 is a technology demonstration payload. It weighs 1kg and measures 58mm x 65mm x 192mm.
3. The purpose of Unicorn 2 is to test an Earth observation camera developed by Alba Orbital. It will be testing both the hardware and software used to take photos and download them back to Earth.
4. Payloads are permitted in line with the [Outer Space and High-altitude Activities Act 2017](#) and the [Outer Space and High-altitude Activities \(Licences and Permits\) Regulations 2017](#).
5. Each payload has been approved by the Minister for Economic Development, on advice from officials across agencies. When approving payloads, the Minister needs to be satisfied that:
 - a. The applicant has taken and will continue to take all reasonable steps to safely manage the operation of the payload;
 - b. The proposed operation of the payload is consistent with New Zealand's international obligations; and
 - c. The applicant has an orbital debris mitigation plan that meets prescribed requirements.
 - d. Despite being satisfied of these matters, the Minister may nevertheless decline a permit if he is not satisfied that the proposed operation of the payload is in New Zealand's national interest.

Date Granted	Authorisation Number	Payload Name	Owner or Operator	Country of Origin
17 December 2021	210194-PPT	Unicorn 2	Alba Orbital	Germany