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Page 3: Submitter Information

Q1

Personal Information

Name

Laurie Ross

Email Address



Q2

Are you making this submission on behalf of a business or organisation?

Yes (Please tell us your company/organisation):
New Zealand Nuclear Free Peacemakers

Page 4: New Zealand's interests in space

Q7

What are your interests and relationship to space? Pick as many as apply below:

Have cultural connections to space,

Other (please specify):

My major interest is in Prevention of an Arms Race in Space and Protection of Outer Space (the Heavens) from pollution and degradation which also threatens Earth's Eco-systems.

Q8

Please note any other interests and relationship to space below that you would like to share.

My major interest is in Prevention of an Arms Race in Space and Protection of Outer Space (the Heavens) from pollution and degradation which also threatens Earth's Eco-systems.

My interest is in Peace, Security and Environmental health in Space and on Earth for Humanity. Thus, the multibillion dollar Space Industry must be carefully developed for Peaceful Purposes ONLY not military domination and control by corporations or nations. In addition, the use of Outer Space, the number of rocket launches and satellites must be SEVERELY restricted for ecological protection and health of the Heavens. We must NOT stuff up Outer Space as we have done to the ocean with plastics etc. Space ship building, fuelling, launching and emissions will add to the Climate Crisis.

My relationship to Space is about respect and protection of this sacred domain, not exploitation for profitable gain. My focus is on ethical issues for minimum use of Outer Space and space vehicles to prevent degradation of the Eco-sphere. Therefore NZ should limit its Space Industry to serve only genuine needs of not whims and greed of Humanity. However, the international corporate Space Industry plans maximum production, launches and Space Race competition and militarisation of Space are a recipe for 'Star Wars' and toxification of the Biosphere with overuse of Space for commercial purposes.

Page 5: New Zealand's values in space

Q9

To what extent do you agree or disagree that these values should apply to New Zealand's space activities and engagements?

Innovation	Strongly agree
Responsibility	Strongly agree
Stewardship	Strongly agree
Partnership	Strongly agree

Q10

Are there any other values, or aspects of kaitiakitanga (guardianship), that you think should apply to New Zealand's space activities and engagements? For example, cultural values regarding space.

Definitely it is vital to recognize that ALL NZers are the Kaitiaki Guardians of Papatuanuku Earth and that Scientific and Technological knowledge and activities must serve our higher values as healthy Human Beings. The problem is that we seem to be making our cultural spiritual values subservient to our Techno masterminds. Thus the stated Space values (above) are reasonable and we can all strongly agree with them.

However, upon deeper examination it seems like a mask of noble intentions for an industry that people do not really need but are led to believe is good, is a faite accompli –whether we like it or not. Thus to gain public trust and meet democratic expectations there is public consultation.

We all agree on principles of Kaitiaki/Guardianship –which upon reflection -should reject the whole idea of bombardment of Ranginui with steel monster machines full of toxic chemicals. Even though a few rockets and satellites for scientific purposes maybe acceptable-this should not mean the total carte blanche of the commercial Space industry with Maori blessing. Those who are shareholders or stakeholders must actually expose the dangers and downside from an over zealous and excessive Space Industry.

Page 6: New Zealand's space policy objectives

Q11

Respondent skipped this question

Rank these key policy objectives in order of importance to you: Click and drag to reorder the objectives from 1 (most important) to 5 (least important)

Page 7: Growing an innovative and inclusive space sector

Q12

To what extent do you agree or disagree that these policy objectives will help the New Zealand government to grow an innovative and inclusive space sector?

Promoting New Zealand's natural advantage for conducting space activities, and research and development expertise across the space value chain	Strongly disagree
Partnering within New Zealand and internationally to increase research and development capabilities	Strongly disagree
Identifying opportunities to increase diversity in the space sector	Strongly disagree
Using cutting-edge space technology and space sourced data to support New Zealand's values and interests	Strongly disagree

Q13

Do you have any comments on these policy objectives? (e.g. any suggested change to how they are framed? Is there anything missing?)

The most important objective should be minimizing pollution, degradation and economic waste in Space. Thus, massive investment and development in the High Tech Space Industry as the/a major source of NZ economic growth is not really desirable and has too many damaging elements. However, all the marketing, TV promotion, government documents and approved information presents only glamour, wealth and positive benefit for NZ.

NZ government needs to 'think again' about pushing this Space Age Technocracy and Economic globalisation ideology as the Way to maximise Aotearoa prosperity and 'national interest'. We have this incredible creative talent, ingenuity, innovation skills, location and facilities for a great Space Industry (Peter Beck and Rocket Lab) but it still may not be right to make it any bigger because many NZers may disagree with it in principle.

Thus, it is understandable that we want to 'go with it' to build partnerships for mutual enhancement of our security and friendly relationships with our allies etc NZ would gain much wealth and prestige...BUT... *Is Building a massive High Tech Space Industry the right thing to do? Is this how we want to get rich?

The government should provide valid arguments for and against a massive Space Industry and wedding our country to a High Technology dominated Future.

Q14

Are there any other policy objectives that you think would help the New Zealand government to grow an innovative and inclusive space sector?

The Objective should be to calm down the over promotion of the Space Industry and High Tech hype. The government has invested in the Space Industry and marketing to capture public support for Space Age culture. Now under the guise of public consultation it is able to reinforce popularity of government policies.

They are very good policies if you are determined to enforce the Space Industry economic growth ideology.

Q15

Do you have any questions or comments about what these objectives would mean in practice?

Fulfilling these objectives will mean NZ profits immensely and hopefully minimises potential collateral damage and dangers. The premise of this document is to ensure public capture and support for the Space Industry and High Tech dependency lifestyle of most activities (IoT) plus addiction to digital virtual reality.

*The question is: Is this right? Is this good? Is this true? Or do we accept that 'this is the price of "progress"?'

*The question is: How can government manage the monster that it is unleashing on the general public who actually have no choice. Where can I live in Aotearoa that will not be under the sky of satellites, 5G electromagnetic radiation, surveillance, etc?????

Recommendation: Government must tell people the truth about the potential dangers of IoT dependency and allocate areas and towns in New Zealand as being 'White zones' for people to live outside the IoT system.

Page 8: Promoting the responsible uses of space internationally

Q16

To what extent do you agree or disagree that these policy objectives will help the New Zealand government to promote the responsible uses of space internationally?

Advocating for effective international rules, norms and standards in space **Strongly agree**

Partnering with like-minded launch states to adopt peaceful, responsible and sustainable space practices **Strongly agree**

Collaborating internationally to increase New Zealand's influence and capabilities in the global space sector **Agree**

Q17

Do you have any comments on these policy objectives (e.g. any suggested change to how they are framed? Is there anything missing?)

The double-bind situation we are caught up in is due to the fact that we already have a Space Industry in NZ thus we must commit ourselves to regulating it in NZ and internationally to reduce harmful effects. However, this should not commit us to continuing to build and rely on the Space and High Tech Industry for our economic wealth. Also, no amount of weaponry, Space industry AI or surveillance technology will provide real Human Security that we want in Aotearoa, the Pacific and the world. There is a tendency to equate more militarism with security and that more Space technology is the solution. The skills needed for peacemaking internationally are not Space Tech, but in training, funding and promoting Peacebuilding work and relationships, developing trust between leaders who are human beings.

Q18

Are there any other policy objectives that you think would help the New Zealand government to promote the responsible uses of space internationally?

NZ must Champion the PAROS Treaty (Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space) as an absolute priority.

It is a curious omission since it is vital to prevention of warfare in Space.

See my previous policy advocacy papers, letters to Ministers and my summary on the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs: 'Report on Reducing Space Threats through Norms, Rules and Principles of Responsible Behaviours' NZ did present a good paper at the UN supporting regulation of space weapons (Aug 2021)

Q19

Do you have any questions or comments about what these objectives would mean in practice?

NZ must pro-actively pursue Demilitarisation of Space and uphold its higher Values and Objectives as a bona fide Nuclear Free Zone nation, as a leader in global Nuclear Disarmament and the TPNW. Thus, NZ is morally obliged to refuse profitable Space payload contracts which serve the military (even if only technological) in nuclear warfare policy and practice as specified in OSHAA.

In addition, NZ should build on its genuine Foreign Policy as a Peacemaker nation, in relation to conventional warfare, because that is most needed, not more technological services for war.

This may appear to present a conflict of interest between higher Human Security and Environmental Health values versus the commercial monetary value of Space launches for the Military which are bound together with civilian dual purpose payloads.

Page 9: Protecting and advancing our national security and economic interests

Q20

To what extent do you agree or disagree that these policy objectives will help the New Zealand government to protect and advance our national security and economic interests?

Use space assets to protect and advance New Zealand's national security and economic interests **Strongly disagree**

Manage the broad range of security risks in space to protect New Zealand's space industry **Strongly disagree**

Collaborate with international space and security partners to pursue New Zealand's national security and economic interests **Strongly disagree**

Q21

Do you have any comments on these policy objectives (e.g. any suggested change to how they are framed? Is there anything missing?)

YES –sadly NZ is now caught in a 'Catch 22' situation where we are damned if we do and damned if we don't, because we have this new powerful Space Industry that we now need to 'protect' which means militarisation. In addition, our economic investment and immense profitability from the Space Industry means it is unlikely that NZ would withdraw from it.

Hence government is to be commended for trying to at least regulate it to be safer immediately and longterm. The greatest hope is that NZ helps other Space faring nations to adopt our higher values, standards and rules to protect the Earth and Space from violence and war.

The government, media and multinational corporates promote feverish excitement and national pride in launching monster rockets and satellites into Space. However, it would be wise to require that all nations must first agree to strict International Space Industry rules and the PAROS Treaty, to protect the health and well-being of Humanity, the Earth and Outer Space as a prerequisite for international Space Industry Security.

One of NZ's great examples of international leadership is in the domestic OSHAA policy.

Of most concern is the pretense that NZ is protecting its own Space assets when it is more correct to say that it is defending its clients who present military threats, which makes NZ a target pawn. The US Space Force warfare strategies most endanger NZ security.

Q22

Are there any other policy objectives that you think would help the New Zealand government to protect and advance our national security and economic interests?

See my papers on UN Disarmament Affairs-Reducing Space Threats through Norms, Rules and Principles of Responsible Behaviours. Also Please include advocacy of the PAROS Treaty in our NZ Space Policy.

Achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals does not require a massive Space Industry (which may jeopardise SDGS), nor should SDGs be used to justify it. However, appropriate use of Space Tech Industry does have a place to protect NZ national security and economic interests as well as those of every other nation.

This will not be achieved by more money, expertise and energy put into Space Travel for the wealthy, nor mining celestial bodies, nor space real estate, nor commercialisation, traffic congestion and debris in Space, nor sending people to live in Hazmat suits in Space Stations on the moon or Mars. Clean up the Earth and look after Humanity's REAL NEEDS first before rushing into Space to make a new mess and more problems.

Q23

Do you have any questions or comments about what these objectives would mean in practice?

If we simply go along with the current media hype of the Space Race to the stars, as 'man's greatest accomplishment' and a continuation of Maori discovery of Aotearoa or European settlement of the whole world-then the NZ Space Review is fine.

However, if we question this cultural narrative that conquering and colonising Space is not what NZ should be doing then we have problems as it has been made so popular with the masses.

In practice NZ will profit immensely by collaboration with the US to fulfil it's vision to be 'Master of Space' and full spectrum dominance. Should we question whether NZ should be interoperational with the US Defence and Space Force policies? Should we remain compliant and submissive, happy and relieved to be a trusted minion in relation to the US and NATO in the military Space Race into warfare?

Page 10: Modelling sustainable space and Earth environments

Q24

To what extent do you agree or disagree that these policy objectives will help the New Zealand government to model sustainable space and Earth environments?

Encouraging inclusive, sustainable space collaborations within New Zealand	Neither agree nor disagree
Assessing the cumulative impact of space activities on the Earth environment	Strongly agree
Assisting with solving sustainability challenges through space data, including to better monitor or understand the Earth's environment	Agree
Investing in New Zealand's capability to retain, grow, access and use sustainable space technologies	Disagree

Q25

Do you have any comments on these policy objectives (e.g. any suggested change to how they are framed? Is there anything missing?)

The problem is that most NZers are unaware of the dangers of filling Space with satellites for a plethora of purposes, plus blanketing the Earth with microwave celltowers, phased arrays antennas, with digital devices in every child's pocket and bedroom 24/7 connected up to all pervading Space Technology in the Skies.

*Thus, one needs to offer a strong voice of caution in terms of: How Much Space Tech are NZers subjected to from birth, in their homes, schools, streets, parks and in nature?'

It would be wise to better inform the public of the dangers from this high Tech Space Age lifestyle. Ideally parents would be told in a multimedia campaign (as was done for Pandemic) that small children should not use mobile Smart phones and digital devices for daily entertainment as it is harmful to mental health and social development. Objectives to increase the amount and dominance of digital virtual reality, including the Space Industry etc is therefore not desirable.

We do not need more Space Data to confirm that we have a mental Health crisis in New Zealand among young people. WE do not need more Space data to tell us to reduce USE of synthetic nitrogen fertilisers to make grass grow faster, to support more cows per acre, to produce more milk for the export industry in NZ at the cost of greenhouse gas emissions and the Climate Crisis. Thus, it is recommended that NZ keep the Space Industry small and focussed, not another ever expanding pre-occupation of science and technology for financial gain.

Q26

Are there any other policy objectives that you think would help the New Zealand government to model sustainable space and Earth environments?

Aha! Yes many policy objectives could help NZ government to model sustainable Space and Earth environments.

Start by reducing UNSustainable economic growth models of infinite production (and waste) on a finite Earth. The multibillion dollar Space Industry to extract materials, metals, wealth etc from Space and establish colonies on the Moon and Mars is a gross unnecessary expenditure and will not solve the problems on Earth.

The priority in NZ government Policy should be to restore and replant the Earth First with Regenerative agriculture and forests first, before rushing off into Space to escape the burning Earth. The purpose of all NZ policy should be to meet the real needs of NZers for clean healthy water, rivers, lakes, harbours, oceans etc healthy housing and education that is human centred NOT screens (for young children) etc.

NZ government policy should focus on training and employing more NZ teachers, mental health workers, early childhood care and social workers, nurses, doctors, healthcare and agecare workers, etc This is where the money should be invested for the future well-being of the people and 'national good'. The Space Industry does not meet these real needs-it is more of a distraction and an illusion that it will heal the Earth or the people.

Q27

Do you have any questions or comments about what these objectives would mean in practice?

So YES these Objectives for good use of Space Tech in practice does have potential to be genuinely helpful eg: for monitoring, surveillance and legal conviction evidence, particularly in relation to our oceanic Exclusive Economic Zone to protect the fisheries from bottom trawling, Seamount dredging, poaching, over fishing, dumping and stopping transit of weapons and drugs from entering our waters and country.

Protecting the Eco-logical health of the Pacific Ocean and Island Security is a valid use of the NZ Space Tech industry, especially if it can be decoupled from militarisation of the Pacific and Warfare games.

Q28

To what extent do you agree or disagree that these policy objectives will help the New Zealand government to promote the responsible uses of space internationally?

Facilitating the safe and secure use of emerging space technologies from New Zealand **Agree**

Clarifying what New Zealand space activities are inconsistent with the national interest **Strongly agree**

Promoting and protecting New Zealand's interests through permitting space technologies **Disagree**

Q29

Do you have any comments on these policy objectives (e.g. any suggested change to how they are framed? Is there anything missing?)

The primary problem is that you are assuming NZ must proceed with massive development of the Space Industry 'in the national interest' for profitable production and to win friends and influence people, especially our US allies. The other assumption and problems is programming people to think that we all must live in a high Tech Space Age environment and world. If we accept this as true, then we must do everything we can to make the Space Industry –safe and try to reduce the damage, dangers and risks –in sensible pragmatic policies that protects the industry, as the goose that lays golden eggs. However, the majority of NZers do not know the dangers and the true cost of the Space industry or what adverse effects are likely from living continuously in high tech environments and dependency on it. They may agree to this new form of wealth, employment, international prestige, etc because of the brilliant TV media coverage, which only praises the Space Industry, applauds the Space Race to 'win' on the Moon and Mars. The constant propaganda builds NZ national pride around NZ Rocket Lab as a leader in the competition. So even if one disagrees with the Space Rocket razzamataz and the underlying Space Industry premise distasteful, one can have great admiration for how well it is presented and framed for public consumption. The magnificent NZ Space Policy Review appeals to us intellectuals by providing rational argument and superb language to justify the increasing production, launch and proliferation of Space rockets and satellites clogging up Outer Space (WITHOUT Limitations on how many, how often etc). The problem is that this document is a sophisticated marketing campaign convincing us that this Space Industry is what we want and need (a bit like Coca Cola or Smart phones etc) Now we just need to make it bit safer and confirm public acceptance.

Q30

Are there any other policy objectives that you think would help the New Zealand government to ensure space activities are safe and secure?

Please stipulate the LIMITATIONS on numbers and frequency of Space Industry launches. (documents show that Rocket Lab intends to be able to launch several rockets every week!) Please limit the use of the Space Industry to 'Essential services' that really helps humanity.

Make quality not quantity the arbiter of what qualifies for a Rocket launch or putting satellites in Outer Space.

Please stipulate that Protection of Earth and Human Security does not depend on more satellites orbiting the Earth.

Please state that prevention of pollution in Space is preferable to trying to clean up the Space waste rubbish.

Please state NZ Space services do not need to be 'dual purpose' and will not include the US military payloads.

Please be transparent about the fact that launching Space Rockets punches holes in the ozone layer as well as producing massive CO2 emissions and other toxic gases.

Please reveal the plan to launch 100,000 satellites over the next few years for the IoT to cover the whole world (Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, Richard Branson) and that these satellites must be replaced every 5 years.

Please state that NZ will not support this excessive inundation of Outer Space (Ranginui) for commercial gain through compliant consumerist culture of people 'who know not what they do' or what the true cost is to their health and that of Papatuanuku and Ranginui.

Q31

Do you have any questions or comments about what these objectives would mean in practice?

My concern is that the Wairua Spirit of Earth, Heavens and Humanity are all threatened by the Technological Space Industry overload and psychological conditioning. The Mauri Life force of the people of Aotearoa is endangered by this bombardment of Space and from Space for financial gain.

*My question to You -who reads this is: Do you believe the desecration of Space is worth the money ? *Are you willing to sacrifice our Spiritual Mana in exchange for technological Mana power?

Perhaps you have never had such questions in your mind, or conscience, as they are outside your brief and this Policy review. It appears from this document that the Ministry is deadset on promoting this Space Age Industry Programme and only wants feedback that helps them reinforce this policy and economic direction. * Is this correct? *Do you value the issues raised in my submission will be used to prompt more careful consideration about the nature of NZ commitment to the Space Age High Tech Economy and Society? *Do you agree that there needs to be strict limits on the number of rockets and satellites are launched from NZ ? *Do you agree that NZ needs to distance itself from US military and Space Force payloads and ideology?

Q32

Are there any comments you would like to make about these criteria that inform consideration of the national interest?

The main problem is that NZ is embedded in US Space Force and technological interoperability in US Defence and warfare exercises. Thus, the Gunsmoke-J US military payload launched from Mahia New Zealand in March 2021 was for 'warfare combat targeting' which is contrary to NZ policy in principle. However, the NZ government can legally launch US military payloads that are essential for technological warfare (for both conventional and nuclear weapons) which does not involve NZ rockets carrying the actual weapons.

However, this is an ambiguous situation. It is also a 'grooming' process for 'neither confirm nor deny' what is in a payload, especially due to the fact that most loads are 'dual purpose' for civilian and military use. Please refer to my previous correspondence with Ministers and my papers on policy (will attach or send separately)

Hence, what is emerging is a conflict of 'National interest' between our higher values as a Nuclear Free Peacemaker nation etc and our economic Space Industry values for maximum wealth. This business is largely driven by the US military Space Force and warfare industry which NZ and the UN should be shunning as contrary to the Sustainable Development Goals and Nuclear Disarmament.

This NZ Space Policy Review document perhaps does not understand the dichotomy in values. Instead it attempts to justify the proliferation of the Space Industry by asserting it will have immense benefit for achieving SDGs and will abide by the UN Space Treaty. The Space Review is commendable especially because it is based on NZ domestic OSHAA policy and NZ support of the ARTEMIS agreement to protect our assets in Space. Most impressive is NZ's pursuit of UN Disarmament: Report on Reducing Space Threats through Norms, Rules and Principles of Responsible Behaviours to regulate war weaponry in Space.

However NZ Space Review FAILS to support the Prevention of an Arms race in Outer Space Treaty (PAROS) which has been advanced over 4 decades at the UN and supported by the majority of nations, but is always blocked by the US who wants to make Space a warfighting domain.

Q33

What questions do you have about how the national interest is considered in practice?

*Are you willing and able to redefine the priority of 'National interest' to be Health of the Natural environment of Earth and Space and Human Beings? *This would require minimising the Space Industry to 'essential services' rather than maximising it for commercial gain or military purposes-do you agree? *We are led to believe that militarisation of Space is necessary in order to protect the assets –but is this what we want?

It is understandable that in the past 'National Interest' meant increasing economic prosperity, which depended on maximising productivity, producing more and more products and services to produce wealth. It meant more natural resources are used for production and more consumer markets consuming more and more. All of this was based on neo-liberal 'free' market globalisation as an economic ideology, to reduce costs and increase profits, no matter what the social or environmental costs, which are disregarded as 'externalities'.

*So the question is whether 'The Great Reset' by the World Economic Forum of 'stakeholder capitalism' is party to the NZ Space Industry public programming campaign? Are you able to reveal how this is in 'the national interest'?

*The NZ Space Review claims that sending more rockets and satellites into Space will collect more data and measure the environmental problems etc but how will this actually reduce the Climate Emergency? *Is Industrialisation of Space for economic growth -really in 'the national interest' when it increases pollution, environmental degradation and warfare in Space?
