



PERMITTING DECISION SUMMARY

LEO-3

Telesat (formerly Telesat Canada)

1. Telesat is a satellite communications company, based in Ottawa, Canada.
2. Presently, Telesat operates 15 geostationary broadband communications satellites, and is developing Telesat Lightspeed, a low Earth orbit (LEO) constellation.
3. LEO-3 is a technical demonstrator and will be used for customer and ecosystem vendor testing in advance of Telesat Lightspeed deployment.
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
2 July 2023	A230224-PPT	LEO-3	Telesat	Canada