**PERMITTING DECISION SUMMARY**

**QPS-SAR-5**

**Institute for Q-shu Pioneers of Space**

1. Institute for Q-shu Pioneers of Space (iQPS) is a Japanese start-up company, which is currently focused on Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) satellite development. SAR is a form of radar that enables detection and tracking of small-scale changes on the surface of the Earth.
2. QPS-SAR-5 is a minisatellite with SAR capability. It will join the existing Earth observation constellation operated by iQPS.
3. Payloads are permitted in line with the [Outer Space and High-altitude Activities Act 2017](http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2017/0029/latest/whole.html#DLM6966275) and the [Outer Space and High-altitude Activities (Licences and Permits) Regulations 2017](http://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2017/0250/latest/DLM7364101.html).
4. 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:
	1. The applicant has taken and will continue to take all reasonable steps to safely manage the operation of the payload;
	2. The proposed operation of the payload is consistent with New Zealand’s international obligations; and
	3. The applicant has an orbital debris mitigation plan that meets prescribed requirements.
	4. 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.

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| Date Granted | Authorisation Number | Payload Name | Owner or Operator | Country of Origin |
| 14 September 2023 | A230243-PPT | QPS-SAR-5 | Institute for Q-shu Pioneers of Space | Japan |