



## PERMITTING DECISION SUMMARY

### CubeSail

#### University of Illinois

1. CubeSail is designed by the University of Illinois and CU Aerospace based in the United States. CU Aerospace identifies and develops new aerospace technologies.
2. CubeSail is made up of two identical 1.5U CubeSats with a solar sail ribbon between them.
3. CubeSail is the first in a planned series of missions to test the solar sail as a potential propulsion method. The CubeSail payload conducts a technology demonstration by deploying the solar sail between the two CubeSats and testing the capability of the solar sail.
4. Payloads are permitted in line with the [Outer Space and High-altitude Activities Act 2017](#) (OSHAA) 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.
6. Prior to the OSHAA, the [contract with Rocket Lab](#) allowed the Government to veto the launch of any payload that it determined was contrary to New Zealand law, regulations or policy, was contrary to New Zealand's international obligations or would prejudice New Zealand's national security or other national interests. Every payload launched by Rocket Lab under the contract was assessed against these interests.

Date Granted	Authorisation Number	Payload Name	Owner or Operator	Country of Origin
25 March 2018	180026-CPY	CubeSail	University of Illinois	United States