



PERMITTING DECISION SUMMARY

DaVinci

LCF Enterprises

1. North Idaho STEM Charter Academy partnered with LCF Enterprises to develop the DaVinci satellite. The DaVinci CubeSat project was led by a student team from the Academy.
2. DaVinci is a 3U CubeSat. It has the capability to communicate with a ground station and a small on-board camera which it uses to take low resolution photos for public use.
3. DaVinci's mission is to be a satellite that anyone can use. Once in orbit, the satellite begins broadcasting Morse code messages on amateur radio frequencies. The aim is that students around the world will be able to receive these messages.
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
28 March 2018	180028-CPY	DaVinci	LCF Enterprises	United States