



PERMITTING DECISION SUMMARY

Humanity Star

Rocket Lab

1. Rocket Lab is a private United States aerospace manufacturer and smallsat launch provider with a wholly owned New Zealand subsidiary. It operates a private launch facility in New Zealand located on the Mahia Peninsula.
2. The Humanity Star is a geodesic sphere made from carbon fibre with 80 highly reflective panels. It spins rapidly, reflecting the sun's rays back to Earth and is designed to be visible from the Earth.
3. 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](#).
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:
 - 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.
5. 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
15 September 2017	180001-CPY	Humanity Star	Rocket Lab	New Zealand