



## PERMITTING DECISION SUMMARY

### Prometheus-B2

#### United States Special Operations Command

1. The United States Special Operations Command (US SOCOM) is a branch of the Department of Defense within the United States Government.
2. US SOCOM, in conjunction with Los Alamos National Laboratory, have developed two 1.5U CubeSats. They are jointly known as Prometheus-B2.
3. Prometheus-B2 is a technology demonstration project to explore the utility of CubeSats.
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
18 June 2019	190058-PPT	Prometheus B2	USSOCOM	United States



**NEW ZEALAND  
SPACE AGENCY**



**PAYLOAD PERMIT**  
**190058-PPT**

I, Hon David Parker, as Minister for Economic Development, acting pursuant to section 17 of the Outer Space and High-altitude Activities Act 2017 grant a Payload Permit to:

**United States Special Operations Command**

United States Special Operations Command is authorised to launch and operate two 'Prometheus' payloads, for the purpose of technology demonstration.

This permit will take effect upon signature and will expire once the payloads are no longer in the Earth's orbit.

This permit is granted subject to the Outer Space and High-altitude Activities Act 2017 and regulations under the Act, and the conditions of the permit

18/6/19

Dated

Hon David Parker  
Minister for Economic Development



MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,  
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