

## PERMITTING DECISION SUMMARY

### NEONSAT-1A

#### Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology

1. Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) is a publicly funded research university in the Republic of Korea. It specialises in science, technology, and engineering. KAIST intends to build a constellation of Earth observation satellites for high-frequency monitoring of the Korean peninsula and its surrounding maritime areas.
2. NEONSAT-1A is a high-resolution optical imaging microsatellite to be deployed as a technology demonstrator for the future constellation.
3. Payloads are permitted in line with the [Outer Space and High-altitude Activities Act 2017](#) and the [Outer Space and High-altitude Activities \(Licences and Permits\) Regulations 2017](#).
4. Each payload has been approved by the Minister for Space, 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 they are not satisfied that the proposed operation of the payload is in New Zealand's national interest.

Date Granted	Authorisation Number	Payload Name	Owner or Operator	Country of Origin
9 November 2025	250466-PPT	NEONSAT-1A	Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology	Republic of Korea