



PERMITTING DECISION SUMMARY

ARICA-2

Aoyama Gakuin University

1. Aoyama Gakuin University is a private university in Japan.
2. ARICA-2 is a technology demonstrator payload. Its mission is to test a real-time alert system for detecting astronomical events such as gamma ray bursts from distant galaxies. It also features a low-resolution camera for imaging aurora.
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
28 November 2025	250471-PPT	ARICA-2	Aoyama Gakuin University	Japan