



**PERMITTING DECISION SUMMARY**

**Dove Pioneer**

**Planet Labs Inc.**

1. Planet Labs Inc (Planet) is a satellite company with their headquarters based in San Francisco, California. They are a private Earth imaging company.
2. The Dove Pioneer satellite is a 3U CubeSat equipped with Earth imaging cameras, solar cells and batteries.
3. The mission of Dove Pioneer is replenishment and advancement in satellite technology and performance of Planet's existing satellite constellation, currently the largest in orbit. Planet's satellite constellation captures images from around the Earth and they provide this imagery to their customers.
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.

<b>Date Granted</b>	<b>Authorisation Number</b>	<b>Payload Name</b>	<b>Owner or Operator</b>	<b>Country of Origin</b>
13 September 2017	180002-CPY	Dove Pioneer	Planet Labs Inc.	United States