



## PERMITTING DECISION SUMMARY

### NMTSat

#### New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology

1. The New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology is a public university in Socorro, New Mexico. Students from their undergraduate and postgraduate programmes were involved in the design and construction of NMTSat.
2. NMTSat is a 3U CubeSat that has three space weather instruments; a plasma probe, magnetometers and GPS occultation experiment technology. It also contains an electrical monitoring system and optical status beacon.
3. The NMTSat's primary mission is educational. This included providing approximately 50 students with hands-on experience designing and building the satellite. It teaches students about the design, construction and licensing of space technologies.
4. 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](#).
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 NZ law, regulations or policy, was contrary to NZ's international obligations or would prejudice NZ'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
22 March 2018	180024-CPY	NMTSat	New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology	United States