



Australian Government
Department of Industry and Science

Authorising Australian Space Activities

And

Reforming the Space Activities Act 1998


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When do you need authorisation under the Space Activities Act 1998?

Criteria:

-  1. an Australian national / company has a physical ownership interest
2. In an object intended to go above 100km





What activities are covered?

SPACE LICENCE

- Required to operate a launch facility in Australia
- Does not grant permission to launch a space vehicle

LAUNCH PERMIT

- Required for each launch (or series) conducted under a space licence
- Can authorise the launch or return of a space object (or both) in Australia

RETURN OF AN OVERSEAS LAUNCHED SPACE OBJECT

- Space object launched outside Australia

OVERSEAS LAUNCH CERTIFICATE

- Launching of a space object owned by an Australian national from a place outside Australia
- Includes payload or launch vehicle (or any part thereof)



Authorisations under the *Space Activities Act 1998*

- Authorisations have historically been for large communications satellites
 - Optus series
 - NBN Co



*Courtesy
Cuberider Pty Ltd*

2016 Overseas Launch Certificates

- Cuberider – STEM project, coding experiment for International Space Station
- QB50 – Belgium coordinated small satellite project
- UNSW Buccaneer
- NBN Co – communications satellite – launch October 4, 2016



Assessment of applications

- Start discussions early
- Critical things we look for:
 - Public safety
 - Is there fissionable material or a weapon of mass destruction
 - Can I register this object under the UN Registration Convention
 - Evidence satisfying the insurance/financial requirements
 - Sufficient information on the project; the company; contractual arrangements, the launch procedure
 - Has the application fee been paid



Reform of the Space Activities Act 1998 and associated framework

October 2015	<i>Space Activities Act 1998</i> review publicly announced by the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science
Oct – Dec 2015	Preliminary Commonwealth consultations - written submissions
24 February 2016	Stakeholder forum at Parliament House with Minister for Industry Innovation and Science Release of an Issues Paper for public consultation
February – April 2016	Public consultation
May – August 2016	Analysis of public submissions
August – October 2016	Additional Commonwealth consultation
March 2017	Release of legislative proposals paper for public consultation Release of Analysis Report by Professor Steven Freeland Release of departmental paper addressing opportunities for Australian players in global supply chains in the context of the review of the <i>Space Activities Act 1998</i>
August 2017 (Estimate)	Public consultation on draft Bill



Legislative Proposals Paper

- Proposal 4.4.1: “That the objects of the legislation be streamlined, to emphasise appropriately balancing risk and Australian benefit ...”
- Proposal 4.7.1: “That introduction of a licence type to authorise payloads be considered.”
- Proposal 4.7.8: “For a list of ‘standard’ launch facilities to be prepared and made available (in either a subordinate instrument or elsewhere), to streamline the application process.”
- Proposal 4.11.2: “That provision be made in relation to payload and launch facility authorisations for establishing a phased application process.”



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