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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 2015</td>
<td><em>Space Activities Act 1998</em> review publicly announced by the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science</td>
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<td>Oct - Dec 2015</td>
<td>Preliminary Commonwealth consultations - written submissions</td>
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| 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 *Space Activities Act 1998* |
| August 2017 (Estimate)| Public consultation on draft Bill                                   |
• 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.”