

Application Narrative

Space Exploration Technologies Corp. (“SpaceX”) requests a six-month STA to authorize Dragon Capsule operations. The locations and technical parameters will be consistent with prior authorizations¹ and, in each case, all pertinent information will be supplied to NTIA and other interested federal agencies for coordination well in advance. All launches will be licensed by the FAA Office of Commercial Space Transportation.

The operations covered in each case would include:

1. Transmissions to and from the Dragon Capsule for the duration of Dragon missions to the International Space Station (both cargo and commercial crew missions).
2. Communications necessary for recovery operations at predefined locations, including:
 - a. Pre-launch checkout testing of the command uplink from onshore stations; and
 - b. Communications between the capsule and recovery vessels.

Any communications involving other vehicles or payloads would require separate FCC authority. All downrange Earth stations are receive-only.

The application covers launch activities in the following categories of locations:

- Vandenberg SFB
 - o Certain fixed locations at Vandenberg SFB.
- Cape Canaveral AFS
 - o Certain fixed locations at Cape Canaveral AFS.
- Fixed Command Locations at:
 - o Kodiak, AK
 - o Inarajan, Guam²
- Drone ship and support boat operations in the Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of America.
- Command and recovery ship locations for Dragon missions at:
 - o Boca Chica, TX
 - o Daytona, FL
 - o Jacksonville, FL
 - o Panama City, FL
 - o Tallahassee, FL
 - o Tampa, FL
 - o Cape Canaveral AFS (Port Canaveral)
 - o Pensacola, FL
 - o Dry Tortuga, Key West FL
 - o Los Angeles, CA
 - o Oceanside, CA
 - o San Diego, CA
 - o Port of Long Beach, CA

¹ See, e.g., [2138-EX-ST-2024](#).

² Due to the constraints of the experimental STA application form, geolocation coordinates for this location were incorrectly specified as 144-45-19 W. The correct coordinates are 144-45-19 E.