



Commonwealth Fact Sheet



SPACE ACTIVITIES ACT 1998

If your project involves conducting certain civil space activities either from Australia or by an Australian national outside Australia, you must comply with this Act.

1. What approvals do I need?

Certain civil space activities are prohibited unless appropriate approvals are obtained in accordance with the Act and the *Space Activities Regulations 2001*. The space activities that require approvals include:

- a launch of a space object from Australia;
- a launch of a space object by an Australian national outside of Australia;
- a launched space object, launched from within Australia or elsewhere, being returned to a place anywhere in Australia;
- a person operating a launch facility in Australia.

Amendments to the *Space Activities Act 1998* were passed by the Australian Parliament in August 2018 and will commence in 2019.

The Australian Space Agency is currently developing new subordinate legislation (known as rules). The rules will detail how applications for approvals work, including what information needs to be provided.

If you are considering making an application under the *Space Activities Act 1998*, it is important to note that the updated regulatory arrangement will commence on or before 31 August 2019.

You can read more about [space regulation](#).

2. Who provides approvals?

The decision to approve an activity is made by the Minister responsible for the *Space Activities Act 1998*. Currently, this is the Minister for Industry, Science and Technology.

3. How do I get Australian Government approval?

You will need to make an application to the Australian Space Agency. The application is internally assessed by the Australian Space Agency. The Agency will then provide your application to the responsible Minister who makes a decision on whether to approve the activity.

4. More information

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For more information on Space Activities in Australia, email enquiries@space.gov.au

Major Projects Facilitation Agency

If you would like assistance to identify the regulatory obligations for your project, please visit our [Online Tool](#) or contact us:

Phone: 02 6243 7121

Email: contact@mpfa.gov.au