



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA,
AND INFORMATION SERVICE

February 13, 2020

To: NASA Commercial Crew Program
Johnson Space Center
Houston, TX 77058

Thru: NASA Search and Rescue Office
Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt, MD 20771

From: 
Mark W. Turner
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NSOF, E/SPO53
Suitland, MD 20746

Subject: One-time waiver for crewed Demonstration Mission #2 (DM-2).

Reference: U.S. SARSAT Waiver Request: SpaceX Demonstration Mission - 2"

After a thorough review of referenced waiver request and in coordination with our Inter-agency Search and Rescue response partners in the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Coast Guard, The SARSAT program recommends the following change to the recovery CONOPS:

Under nominal and planned abort conditions as well as off-nominal, unplanned re-entry that the 406 MHz beacon be activated immediately upon landing. We feel that this change supports the optimal use of the beacon given the issues highlighted and is in keeping with spirit and intent of the International frequency filing on the use of 406 MHz. With those changes, the request for a one-time approval to operate the C/S beacon system in the limited capacity for the DM-2 mission is approved.

Going forward the SARSAT program expects future SpaceX missions will pursue proper Type Approve testing of a redesigned beacon in a certified test laboratory and will submit a full Type Approval Package to the SARSAT program for proper consideration.

Please direct any further questions or concerns to our POC for this matter, Mr. Allan Knox, USMCC Operations Manager (Acting), allan.knox@noaa.gov, 301-817-4144 (Office)

