

## Application Narrative

Space Exploration Technologies Corp. (“SpaceX”) requests a six-month STA to authorize Falcon 9 and Falcon Heavy launches. The locations and technical parameters of each launch will be consistent with prior launches<sup>1</sup> and, in each case, trajectories and any other launch-specific information will be supplied to NTIA and other interested federal agencies for coordination well in advance of launch. All launches will be licensed by the FAA Office of Commercial Space Transportation.

The operations covered in each case would include:

1. Transmissions on the ground prior to launch at specified locations.
2. Transmissions to and from the launch vehicle first stage (either one or three boosters for Falcon 9 and Falcon Heavy launches respectively) during the sub-orbital phase of each mission.
3. Transmissions to and from the launch vehicle second stage during the orbital phase of each mission.
4. Communications necessary for recovery operations at predefined locations, including:
  - a. Pre-launch checkout testing of the command uplink at launch sites;
  - b. Command of landed first stages from recovery boat; and
  - c. Drone ship communications.

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
  - Certain fixed locations at Vandenberg SFB.
  - Stage 1 sub-orbital flight for vehicles originating from Vandenberg SFB.
  - Stage 2 orbital operations for vehicles originating from Vandenberg SFB.
- Cape Canaveral AFS
  - Certain fixed locations at Cape Canaveral AFS.
  - Stage 1 sub-orbital flight for vehicles originating from Cape Canaveral SFS.
  - Stage 2 orbital operations for vehicles originating from Cape Canaveral SFS.
- Kennedy Space Center (“KSC”)
  - Certain fixed locations at KSC.
  - Stage 1 sub-orbital flight for vehicles originating from KSC.
  - Stage 2 orbital operations for vehicles originating from KSC.
- Drone ship and support boat operations in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

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<sup>1</sup> For Falcon 9 Launches *see, e.g.*, [1427-EX-ST-2023](#), [1373-EX-ST-2023](#), [0940-EX-ST-2023](#), [2106-EX-ST-2022](#). For Falcon Heavy Launches *see, e.g.*, [1097-EX-ST-2023](#), [1005-EX-ST-2023](#), [0963-EX-ST-2023](#).