

Ref: 202313083

Mr Ben Tett  
GM Operations and Launch  
Equatorial Launch Australia  
Via email: [ben.tett@ela.space](mailto:ben.tett@ela.space)



**Aboriginal Areas  
Protection Authority**  
protecting sacred sites across the territory

Dear Mr Tett

**Re: Authority Certificate Process**

Thank you for your letter of 12 June 2024.

I note and welcome ELA's careful consideration of the *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989* and its engagement with our Authority Certificate process.

Your intention to apply for an Authority Certificate six to nine months ahead of a proposed launch date, identifying an area 'within a kilometre or so' of where rocket elements are expected to make landfall, is consistent with our standard practices and timeframes for consultations with custodians and the issue of an Authority Certificate.

However, the timeframes can never be guaranteed, as any complications in such research could delay the issue of a Certificate. As such, I recommend that ELA applies for Authority Certificates as soon as a launch plan and the drop zone modelling is available, noting particularly that the wet season can create a considerable delay in remote consultations.

Our application process is via the online portal AAPA Online, as you are aware.

If you have any queries please contact Client Services Manager Ms Catherine McLeish on (08) 8999 4362 or via email at [catherine.mcleish@nt.gov.au](mailto:catherine.mcleish@nt.gov.au).

I note that you would like to provide a copy of this response to the Northern Land Council and I have no objection to that.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Benedict Scambary', is located below the 'Yours sincerely' text. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dr Benedict Scambary  
Chief Executive Officer  
5 July 2024