U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration

Commercial Space Transportation

800 Independence Ave., SW.
Washington, DC 20591

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 450

Determination Regarding the Extent to which Launch Safety-Related Services and Property of John F. Kennedy Space Center Wallops Flight Facility Satisfy Part 450 Requirements

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Transportation (DOT)

ACTION: Notice of Determination

SUMMARY:
In accordance with 14 CFR 450.45(b), the FAA has provisionally determined that the launch safety-related services and property of the John F. Kennedy Space Center Wallops Flight Facility (KSC/WFF), satisfy the requirements of Part 450 specified in the table below. A final determination is pending additional coordination between KSC/WFF and the FAA.

DATE: The date of this notice is 5 October 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information concerning this action, contact Executive Director, Office of Operational Safety, Office of Commercial Space Transportation via letter: 800 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20591; via email: 9-AST-Inquiries@faa.gov; via phone: 202-267-7793.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commercial Space Launch Act of 1984, as amended and codified at 51 U.S.C. §§ 50901-50923, authorizes the Department of Transportation, and the FAA through delegation, to oversee, license, and regulate commercial launch and reentry activities, and the operation of launch and reentry sites as carried out by U.S. citizens or within the United States. The FAA exercises this responsibility consistent with public health and safety, safety of property, and the national security and foreign policy interests of the United States. 51 U.S.C. 50905. To satisfy the FAA regulations, operators may use a means of compliance that has already been accepted by the FAA or propose an alternate approach.

DETERMINATION: In accordance with 14 CFR 450.45(b), the FAA has provisionally determined that the launch safety-related services and property of the KSC/WFF satisfy the requirements of Part 450 specified in the table below. A final determination is pending additional coordination between KSC/WFF and the FAA. Applicants are free to apply for listed services

under this provision prior to a final determination. The FAA expects to expand this determination to encompass additional requirements through the coordination process. The FAA may also accept services and property provided by KSC/WFF as satisfying additional requirements on a case-by-case basis.

Regulation	**Scope**
§ 450.101 Safety Criteria	Paragraph (e)(1). Paragraph (f) scoped to aircraft, vessels, and WFF controlled areas. Paragraph (g) as it applies to analyses provided as part of KSC/WFF services.
§ 450.108 Flight Abort	All paragraphs except (b)
§ 450.113 Flight safety analysis requirements – scope.	Paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2)
§ 450.115 Flight safety analysis methods	All paragraphs, scoped to analyses performed in support of the below regulations
§ 450.119 Malfunction Trajectory Analysis	All paragraphs except paragraphs (a)(3), (c)(2), (c)(3) and (c)(4)(iii) • Scoped to standard vehicle response modes: LOT, MFT, and RA • Scoped to malfunction trajectory analyses performed using TTK and TAOS
§ 450.121 Debris Analysis	Only paragraphs (c), (d)(3), (d)(4)
§ 450.123 Population Exposure Analysis	All paragraphs • For near-field populations, scoped to flights from WFF • For far-field, globally
§ 450.131 Probability of Failure Analysis	All paragraphs
§ 450.133 Flight Hazard Area Analysis	All paragraphs
§ 450.135 Debris Risk Analysis	All paragraphs • Scoped to analysis performed using RRAT
§ 450.137 Far-field Blast Overpressure	All paragraphs
§ 450.139 Toxic Hazards for Flight	All paragraphs except (f)(1)
§ 450.145 Highly Reliable Flight Safety System	Paragraphs (b)(2) and (d) as it pertains to the KSC/WFF operated ground-based command systems
§ 450.153 Radio Frequency Management	Paragraphs (a)(1), (b)
§ 450.157 Communications	All paragraphs as they pertain to KSC/WFF support of launch operations
§ 450.159 Pre-flight procedures	Paragraphs (a)(1) and (b) as they pertain to flight commit criteria monitored by KSC/WFF
§ 450.161 Control of Hazard Areas	All paragraphs
§ 450.163 Lightning Hazard Mitigation	Paragraphs (a)(1), (b)(1)
§ 450.165 Flight Commit Criteria	Paragraphs a(1,2,3,5)

§ 450.167 Tracking	All paragraphs as they pertain to KSC/WFF ground systems supporting tracking
§ 450.169 Launch and Reentry Collision Avoidance Analysis Requirements	All paragraphs except (b)(3,4)
§ 450.173 Mishap Plan	Paragraph (d)
§ 450.213 Pre-flight Reporting	Paragraph (c)

The services have been determined to satisfy the regulations for the following scope of operations:

- Vehicle types
  - Thrust vector controlled and thruster-controlled vehicles
  - Propellants with CSWG-established yield curves
- Operations
  - Launching vertically from WFF

This determination does not obligate KSC/WFF to provide services or property to an operator. The FAA will accept services and property specified above as satisfying application requirements for a Part 450 license provided they are specified in an agreement between the operator and KSC/WFF (or a chain of agreements through a third party).

The FAA published Advisory Circular 450.45-2 *Compliance when Contracting with a Federal Entity*, on March 11, 2025, that provides guidance on submitting an application under Part 450 that specifies services and property provided by a Federal Entity to satisfy requirements.

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