WELCOME

Public Scoping Meeting for Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Increased Launch/Landing Operations at Boca Chica Launch Site at Starbase, TX and Expansion of Starship Landing and Expenditure Locations

November 17, 18, & 19, 2026

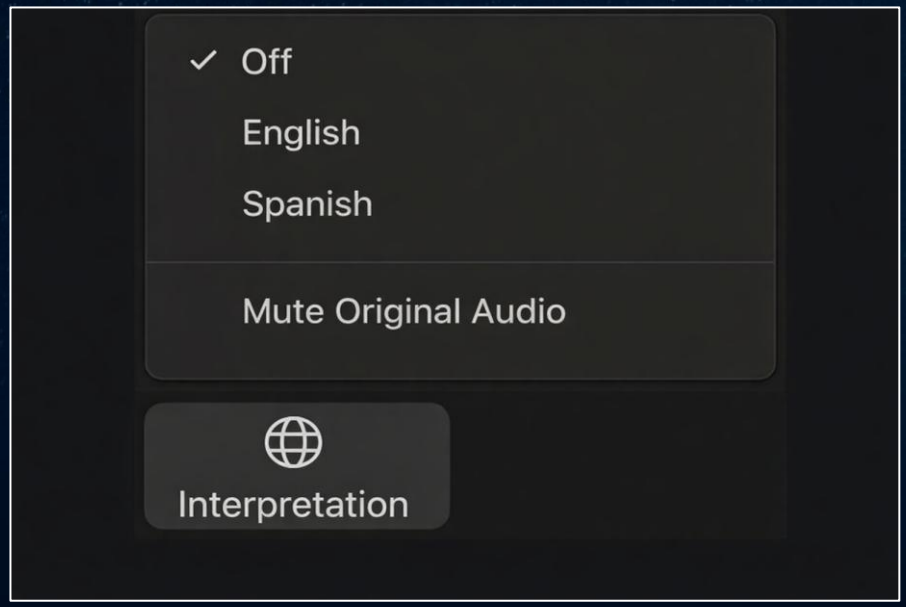
Presentation will begin shortly

Presentación en español:

www.faa.gov/space/stakeholder_engagement/spacex_starship

Interpretation

- Click the “Interpretation” icon at the bottom of your screen
- Select English or Spanish
- Click “Mute Original Audio” to hear interpreted language only



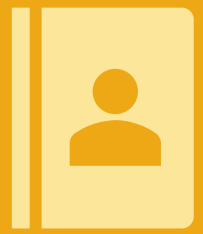
Closed Captioning

- To turn on closed captions, click on the “CC/Live Transcript” icon on the bottom of your screen
- Choose the enable option



Public Scoping Meeting Agenda

- **Logistics**
- **Presentation**
- **Public Comments**
  - Attendees will be given the opportunity to provide public comments recorded by a court reporter



For any media inquires, please contact:
FAA Press Office
Pressoffice@faa.gov

Zoom Platform

- **If you need help with the Zoom Platform:**
  - Use the chat feature located at the bottom of your screen to message the meeting host
- **To call-in to the meeting:**
  - ***[meeting specific information to be provided during public meeting]***
- **All participants are on mute and video feeds are restricted**



Please note: This meeting is being recorded

Virtual Public Scoping Meetings

- Tuesday, November 17
  - *1:00 – 3:00 PM and 5:30 – 7:30 PM CDT*
- Wednesday, November 18
  - *5:30 – 7:30 PM CDT*
- Thursday, November 19
  - *1:00 – 3:00 PM and 5:30 – 7:30 PM CDT*

How to Provide Comments

Verbal comments will be recorded by a court reporter.

Electronic comments via Federal E-Rulemaking Portal:
www.regulations.gov
FAA-2026-12808

By Mail:

FAA Environmental Protection Specialist
SpaceX Boca Chica, c/o Kimley-Horn
767 Eustis Street, Suite 100
St. Paul, MN 55114

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Public comments must be postmarked (by mail) or submitted electronically by **December 7, 2026** to be considered in the development of the Draft PEIS.

Presentation Agenda

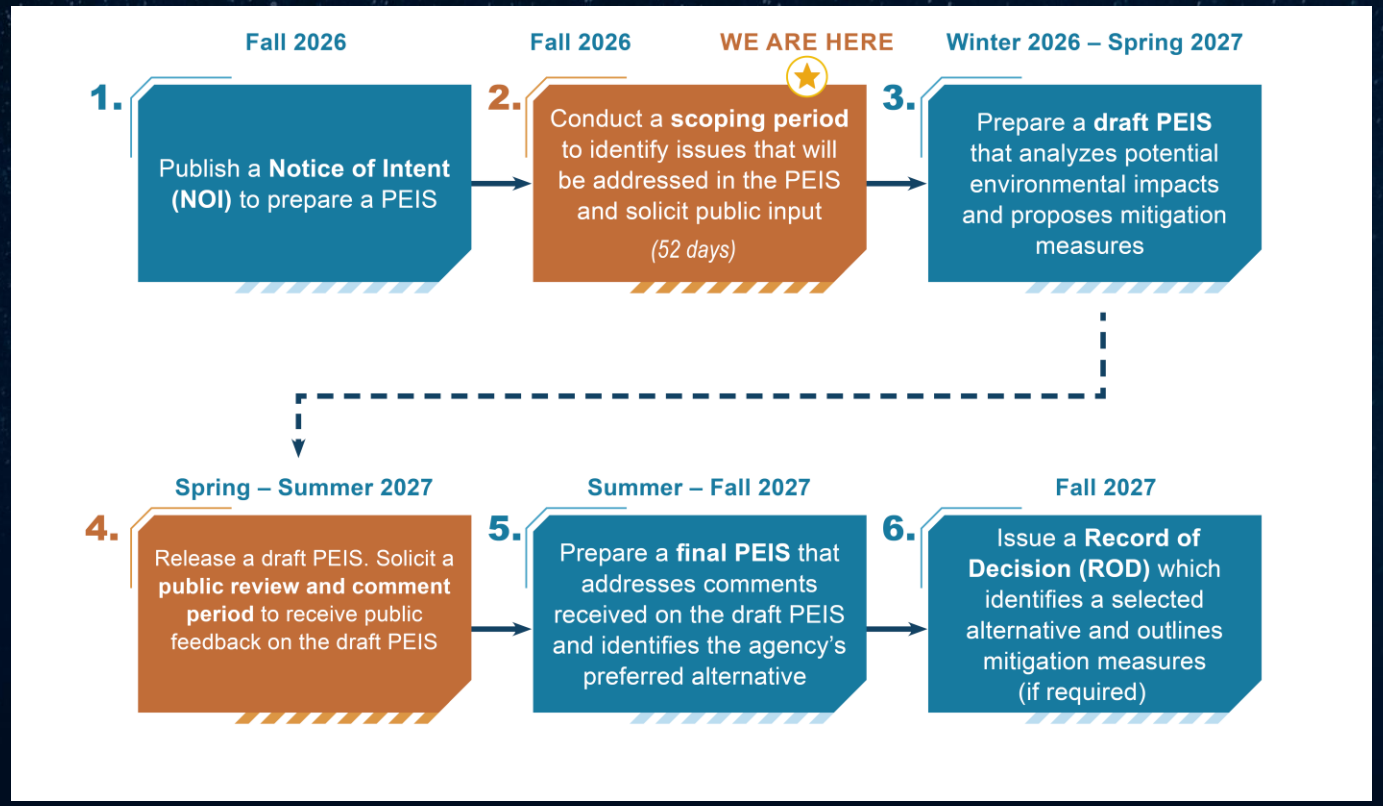
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Proposed Action
  - *Location*
  - *Launches & Landings*
- Purpose and Need
- Alternatives
- Role of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
- Cooperating agencies
- Resource areas to be analyzed in the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS)
- How to provide comments

FAA Presentation

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- Law that requires Federal agencies to consider potential environmental impacts prior to making decisions on Major Federal Actions.
- FAA released the Notice of Intent to prepare a PEIS on October 14, 2026.
- FAA is the lead agency on the PEIS.

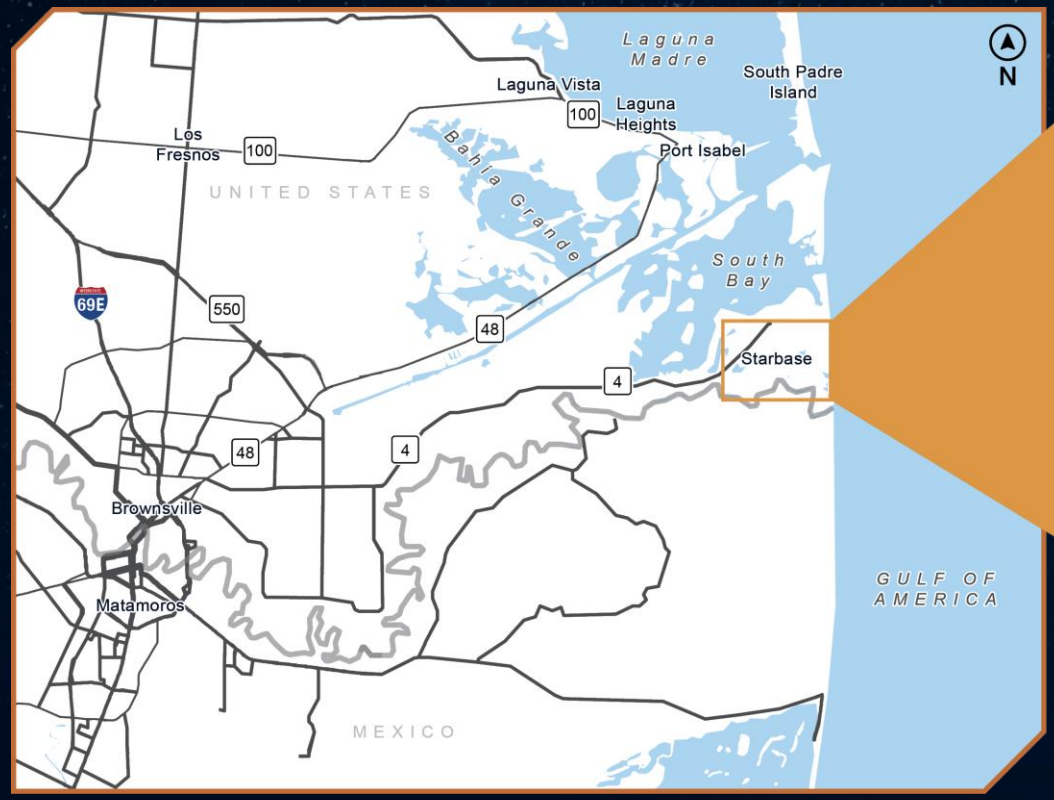
The public is encouraged to participate in the NEPA process.



NEPA process for preparing a PEIS

Proposed Action – Location

The FAA is evaluating SpaceX's proposal to increase the launch and landing operations of Starship-Super Heavy at Starbase in Cameron County, Texas.





Proposed Action Area

The FAA will develop a PEIS to evaluate the potential environmental effects that may result from the Proposed Action.

Proposed Action

- SpaceX's Proposed Action is to increase Starship-Super Heavy launch and Super Heavy and Starship landing operations via a phased approach at the Boca Chica Launch Site.
- Under the Proposed Action, there would be an expansion of Starship landing and expenditure locations.

Activity	Existing	Proposed Action	
		Phase 1	Phase 2
Starship-Super Heavy Launches	25	100	456
Super Heavy Landings	25	100	456
		Up to 25 soft water landings or expended in the Gulf of America	
Starship Landings	25	100	456
		Up to 25 soft water landings in the Gulf of America or broad open ocean, or expended in broad open ocean (includes the Pacific and Indian Oceans)	

Proposed Action

- The PEIS will analyze up to 2,000 hours per year of operational public access restrictions for FAA licensed activities.
- Launches could occur at any time of day or night; for the purpose of the PEIS noise analysis, it is assumed that half would occur during the day and half would occur at night. Currently, up to three nighttime launches with Starship and Super Heavy water landings are allowed. Currently no nighttime Starship or Super Heavy landings are allowed to occur at the Boca Chica Launch site.
- For purposes of analysis within various resource categories, it is assumed that all landings would occur at Starbase unless noted otherwise in the PEIS.



Starship
(second stage)

Intended to be fully reusable for multiple missions

Super Heavy Booster
(first stage)

The Proposed Action will be compared to a No Action Alternative, where the FAA would not modify SpaceX's license to allow for an increased launch and landing frequency.

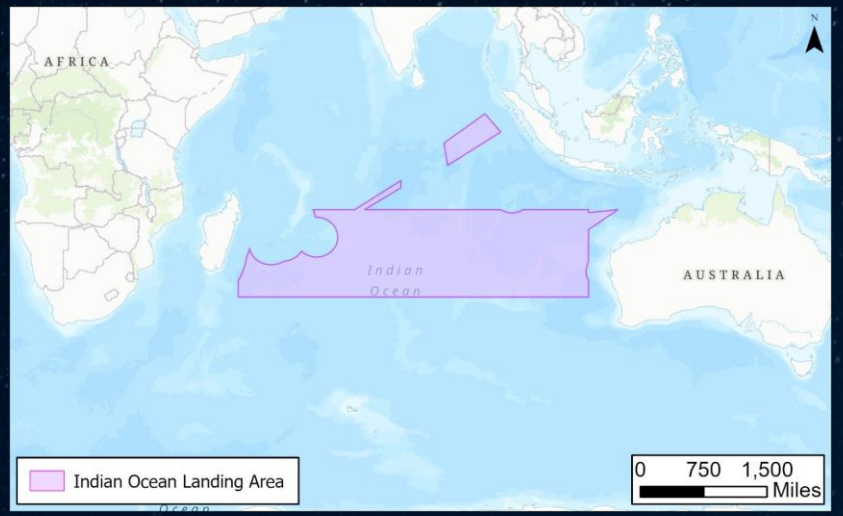
Airspace Integration

- FAA manages the safe and efficient integration of space launches and re-entries into the U.S. National Airspace System through coordinated planning, real-time monitoring, and stakeholder collaboration.
- This PEIS will evaluate Starship-Super Heavy launches, Super Heavy booster reentries, and Starship reentries at Boca Chica Launch Site. Flight trajectories vary based on mission specifics, such as desired payload orbit.
  - *Launches and Super Heavy booster reentries are proposed to occur in airspace extending eastward and southward from the launch site over portions of the Gulf of America, Caribbean Sea, Mexico, Central America, and southeast United States.*
  - *Starship reentries are proposed to occur in airspace extending northward, westward and southward from the launch site over portions of the Pacific Ocean, western United States, Canada, Mexico, Central America, and Gulf of America.*
  - *Starship landings at the Boca Chica Launch Site could be associated with launches from Boca Chica or from another authorized Starship-Super Heavy launch site.*
- FAA's evaluation of SpaceX's proposal ensures that launch and reentry operations are conducted safely.

Landing and Expenditure Areas

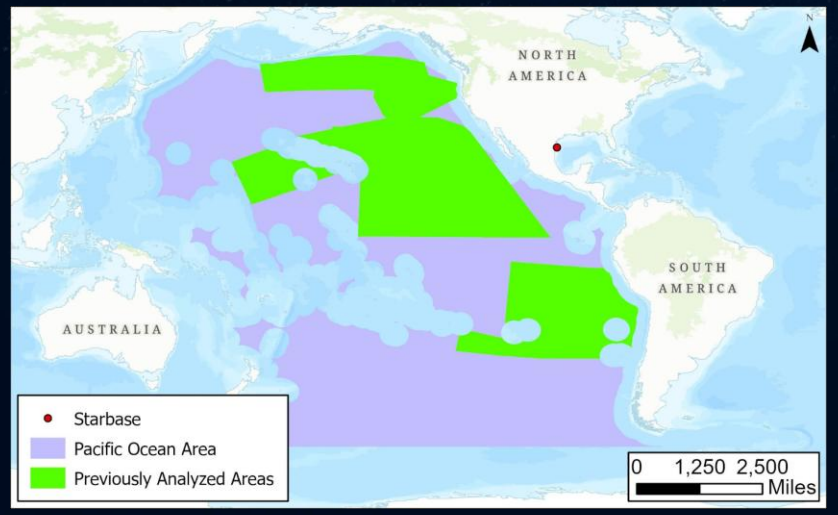
Starship and Super Heavy Landing Area

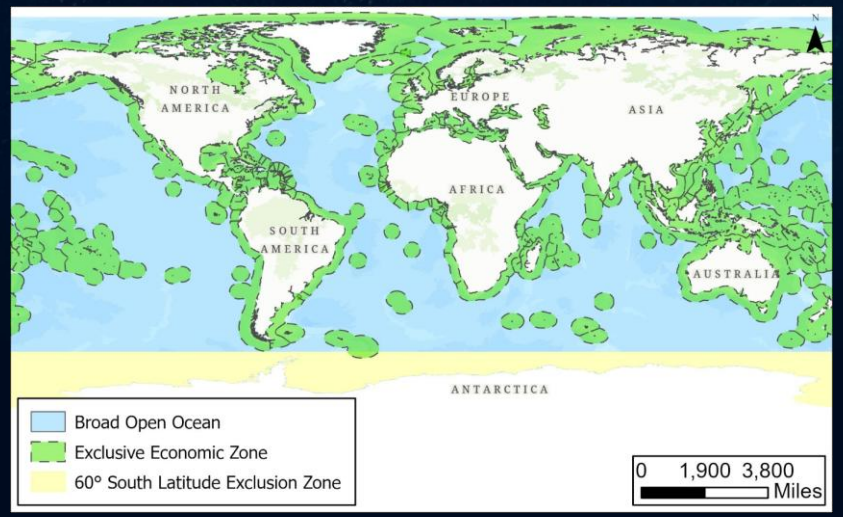




Indian Ocean Starship Landing Area

Pacific Ocean Starship Landing Area





Broad Open Ocean Starship Expenditure Area

Purpose and Need

- The purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide greater mission capability to SpaceX and its customers, including the U.S. Government, promote a robust and competitive national space industry, and make space access more affordable.
- The Proposed Action is driven by the increasing demand for launch services over the past 20 years, with the space industry's growth projections indicating continued growth into the foreseeable future.
- Providing a reusable vehicle that returns to its launch site reduces launch costs and enables cost-effective delivery of cargo and people to the Moon and Mars.

Role of the FAA

FAA's Involvement

- FAA is the lead agency for the PEIS and the licensing authority.

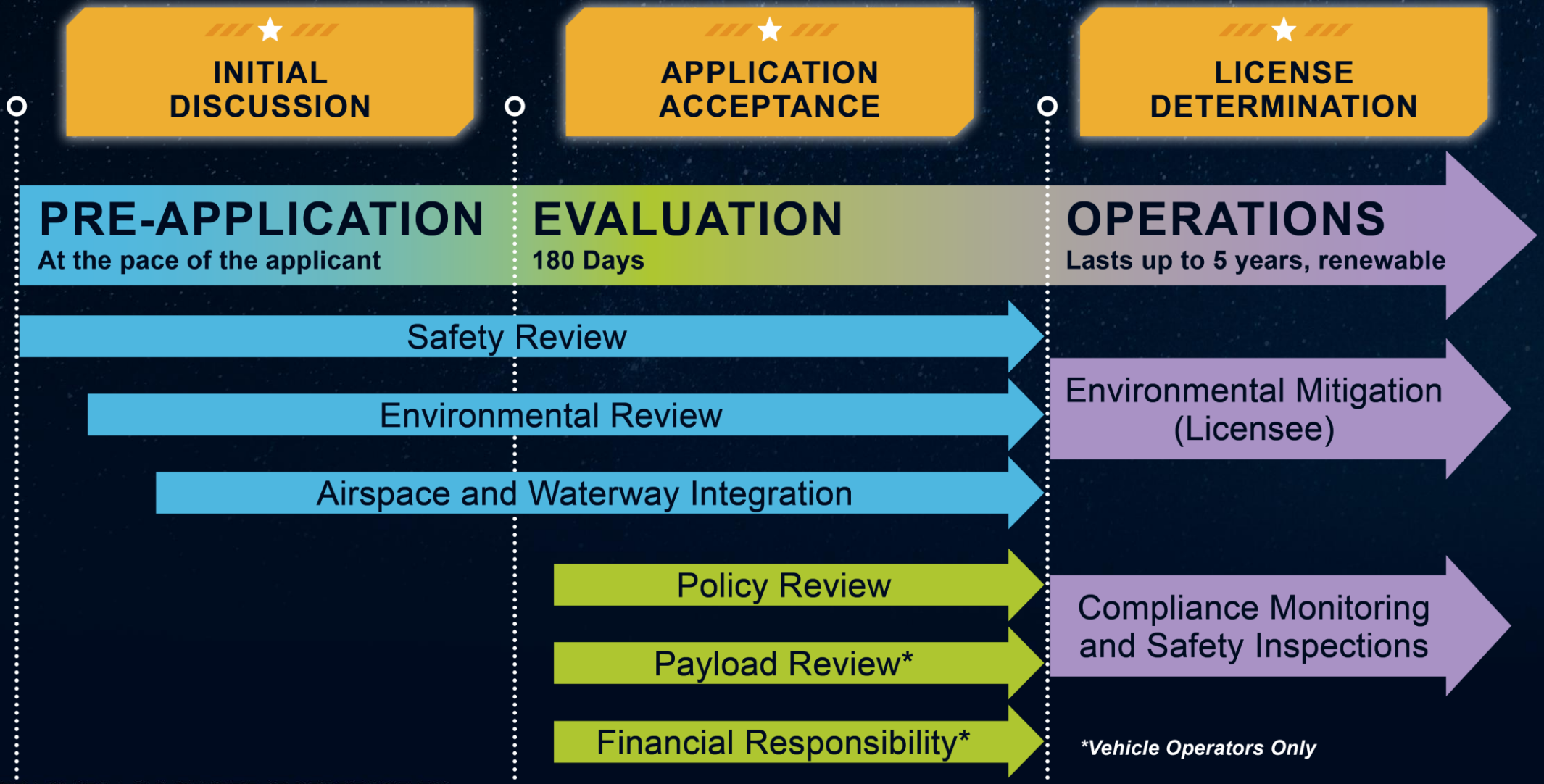
FAA's Federal Action

- Modify SpaceX's existing Vehicle Operator License for Starship-Super Heavy commercial operations at Boca Chica.
- Approve associated airspace closures for launch and landing operations to ensure public safety.

License Determination

- FAA completes policy, location, safety, payload, and environmental review.
- PEIS fulfills the environmental review portion of the license evaluation and determination.
- The environmental review must be completed prior to an FAA licensing determination.
- Any environmental mitigation requirements will become a term and condition of the license.
- Successful completion of the environmental review does not guarantee that the FAA will make a license determination.
- The FAA will perform safety inspections during the licensed operations.

FAA Licensing Process



Cooperating Agencies

NASA has special expertise with respect to potential environmental impacts from space launch and the operation of launch sites.

The National Park Service provides special expertise due to its proximity of the proposed project area to the Palmito Ranch Battlefield National Historic Landmark (NHL) and other historic properties.

The U.S. Coast Guard provides maritime safety and security during launch operations.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services provides expertise with respect to threatened and endangered species and national wildlife refuges. The Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge (LRGV NWR) is located adjacent to the launch site.

Resource areas to be Analyzed in the PEIS

The following resource areas will be considered for analysis in the PEIS:

- Aviation Emissions and Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Coastal Resources
- Department of Transportation Act Section 4(f) and Land and Water Conservation Fund (referred to as “Section 6(f)”)
- Farmlands
- Hazardous Materials, Solid Waste, and Pollution Prevention
- Historical, Architectural, Archaeological and Cultural Resources
- Land Use
- Natural Resources and Energy Supply
- Noise and Noise-Compatible Land Use
- Socioeconomics and Children’s Environmental Health and Safety Risks
- Visual Effects
- Water Resources

The FAA is initiating consultation with:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act
- National Marine Fisheries Service under the Magnuson–Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
- Texas Historic Commission under the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106
- Officials with jurisdiction over Section 4(f) properties

Noise Basics

WHAT IS NOISE?

Unwanted, extraneous, or annoying sound that interferes with or disrupts normal human activities.

Response of different individuals to similar noise events is diverse.

Perception and evaluation of sound involves three basic physical characteristics:

- **Duration – the length of time the sound can be detected.**
- **Magnitude – the acoustic energy, which is expressed in terms of sound pressure, in decibels (dB).**
- **Frequency – the number of cycles per second the air vibrates, in hertz.**

IMPACT ANALYSIS CONSIDERS (including but not limited to)

- Human Annoyance
- Structure Damage
- Ecological Effects
- Land Use Compatability
- Hearing Conservation

How to Provide Comments

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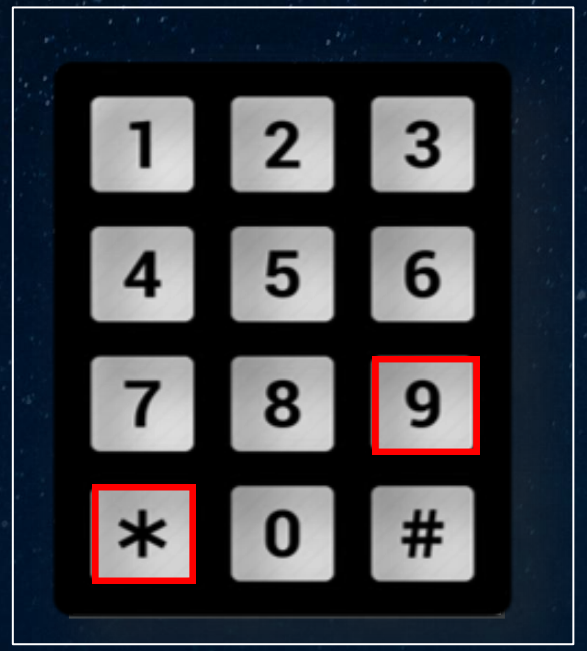
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Order of Public Comments

- We will start by calling on those who registered in advance to comment. The Facilitator will call on them in the order they registered
- Commenters will be called on by the Facilitator in the order they raise their hands.

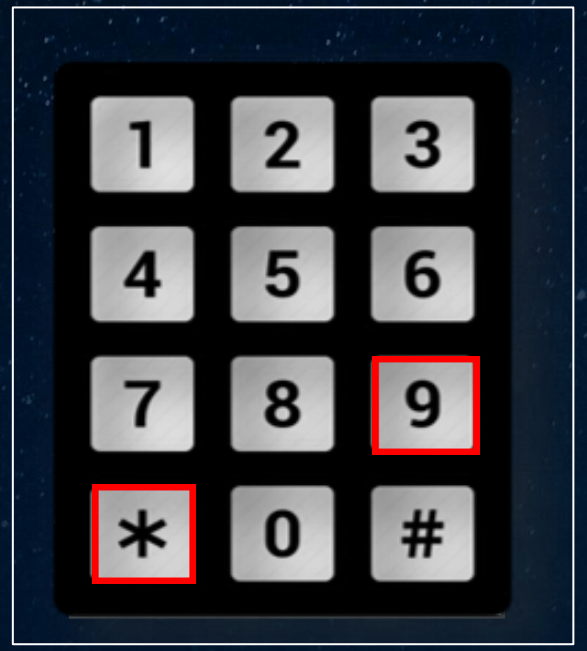




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Open for Public Comments

- To comment, use the ‘raise hand’ button in Zoom (or *9 phone-only participants)
- When you are called upon, the Facilitator will invite you to unmute your line
- Please state and spell your name when you begin
- Please limit your comments to 3 minutes. For comments more than 3 minutes, you can submit your comments in writing
- Commenters will be called on by the Facilitator in the order they raise their hands.





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Unmuting Your Line

Zoom Webinar Participants:



- *When called upon, you will receive a pop-up notification on your computer noting that the Facilitator is asking you to unmute your microphone.*
- *Click **Unmute** to turn on your microphone.*
- *You must click **Unmute** in the Zoom platform or your microphone will not be unmuted.*

Call – In Participants:



- *Your line is automatically muted until you are called upon.*
- *When called upon, you will hear an audio prompt on your phone to press ***6** to unmute your line.*
- *Press ***6** to unmute your line.*
- *You must click ***6** on your phone or your line will not be unmuted.*

Audio Issues?

- Ensure your microphone, speakers, or headphones are connected, unmuted, and set as the correct input/output in Zoom's audio settings.
- For Bluetooth devices, ensure proper pairing and disable conflicting microphone options.
- Raise volume and refresh/rejoin the webinar.
- If necessary, try a different browser or device.

Comments limited to 3 minutes



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