

NOAA's Commercial Remote Sensing Regulatory Affairs

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Facts & Figures

For Calendar Year 2017

➤ Licensing So Far

- 35 Application Inquiries
- 10 New Licenses Issued--Average of 96 days for Issuance
 - *In CY 2016, Total of 14 New Licenses Issued at Average of 108 Days for Issuance*
- Total Actions: 38
- Currently: 32 licensees (43 licenses)

➤ Ground Stations

- 290 Licensed Sites
- 2 Sites Pending Approval
- 35 Additional Sites Anticipated by End of CY 2017
- 3 New Countries Added to the Inspections List (*Guam, India, Argentina*)

➤ Satellites

- ~215 satellites currently on orbit (*Added 35 satellites since April*)



2017 Licensing Activities

➤ 20 Open Actions

- *Includes: application reviews, new licenses, license amendments, waivers, and foreign agreements*

➤ New Address:

Commercial Remote Sensing Regulatory Affairs, E/ACIO4
1335 East-West Highway, Suite G-101
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

➤ Enhancements to Process

- **Memorandum of Understanding:** An interagency memo was signed by the Secretaries of each agency, which will help shorten average time for issuing a license and clarifies escalation process
- **Changes in License Formats:** With implementation of licensing conditions, CRSRA will be changing the license format for all licenses to make licenses shorter and more straight-forward



2017 Compliance Activities

- This year NOAA Compliance has so far:
 - Processed 14 Data Protection Plan Actions
 - Completed FY17 Quarter 3 Audits and Reviewed 34 Annual Audits
 - Completed 26 Inspections
 - Anticipate Completing 11 Additional Inspections by End of CY 2017

- Launches
 - Since April, Astro Digital, Planet Labs, Spire, Teledyne Brown and Tyvak have had successful launches
 - 11 Additional Launches by end of 2017

- Enhancements to Process
 - Audit Forms will be updated to correspond with license changes
 - Once forms are updated, all compliance forms will be posted on the website



Current Issues

Kyl-Bingaman Amendment

➤ Amendment

- Statutory Language: PROHIBITION ON COLLECTION AND RELEASE OF DETAILED SATELLITE IMAGERY RELATING TO ISRAEL

A department or agency of the United States may issue a license for the collection or dissemination by a non-Federal entity of satellite imagery with respect to Israel only if such imagery is no more detailed or precise than satellite imagery of Israel that is available from commercial sources.

➤ NOAA

- Currently limits imagery over Israel to coarser than 2 meters GSD
- Received evidence from licensees that imagery over Israel is currently commercially available from foreign commercial sources for better than 2 meters GSD
- NOAA is undergoing review of this evidence



Current Issues

Foreign Engagements

- Operating Foreign Owned Satellites
 - NOAA Requirements: a remote sensing license and a foreign agreement
- Turn-Key Systems
 - NOAA Requirements: a remote sensing license and possibly a foreign agreement
- Dual Regulation
 - Bi-Lateral Requirements: a NOAA license does not waive legal requirements in other nations
- Foreign Ground Stations
 - Notify NOAA of any and all ground stations from which you downlink imagery
 - Specify if foreign partners have access to downlinked data at these ground stations--a foreign agreement may be needed



Questions?

