

Explanation of Amendment

The purpose of this amendment is to align the proposed altitude of the unmanned aircraft (UAV) flights with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) discussions in its coordination responsibilities.

Pending in application 0272- EX-CM 2018 is AeroVironment's request to be authorized to use 5040.9675 and 5040.8825 at the Edwards Air Force Base sites and 5040.8825 at the Lanai, HI site for command and control testing. The FAA coordinated access to these channels to permit initial intermittent low altitude flights no higher than 9000'/2743 meters.

In a previous application, 0677- EX-CN-2018, the Commission granted an experimental license to use 454.7000/459.975 at the EAFB and Lanai, HI sites under call sign WJ2XUP.

In this application we are amending the current authority under WJ2XUP to access 454.7000/459.975 at the EAFB and Lanai, HI sites at the altitude of no higher than 9000'/2743 meters. We are also amending the pending application to access 5040.9675 and 5040.8825 at EAFB and Lanai, HI to reflect the FAA's coordination as to altitude and radius of operations, no higher than 9000'/2743 meters. This amendment makes no changes other than the altitude of the aircraft during these initial test flights and the radius of operations.

AeroVironment's intent is solely to flight test a prototype aircraft. It does not seek blanket or permanent approval. This work is for purposes of flight testing the prototype aircraft supporting AeroVironment's Hawk30 High Altitude Platform System (HAPS) unmanned aircraft. The project encompasses solar-powered high altitude long-endurance (HALE) unmanned aircraft. The tests address integrating the transceivers in the solar environment.

AeroVironment will submit a subsequent application to permit flight at a higher altitude.