

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



**Mary W. Jackson NASA Headquarters**  
Washington, DC 20546-0001

September 29, 2023

Reply to Attn of: Office of International and Interagency Relations

Mr. Daniel Neuenschwander  
European Space Agency (ESA)

Dear Director Neuenschwander,

Following the success of the Artemis I test flight of the Space Launch System (SLS) and Orion Spacecraft in 2022, NASA is rapidly approaching the Artemis II mission, which is planned to launch at the end of 2024. Artemis II will represent the first crewed test flight of the integrated crew transportation system, and test the performance of the SLS and Orion.

Due to an unforeseen manifest development, Artemis II can now accommodate up to four (4) 12U sized cubesats that will deploy post Orion spacecraft separation in a high-Earth orbit. NASA plans to provide a limited number of these cubesat opportunities to international space agencies. These flight opportunities should be considered cooperative, on a no-exchange-of-funds basis, and support our respective space exploration goals. NASA invites your organization funded proposals via a letter of intent by November 1, 2023. Please address the letter to Dr. Jacob Bleacher, Chief Exploration Scientist of NASA's Exploration Systems Development Mission Directorate.

The letter of intent should define the proposed cubesat mission and include a description of the science and technical goals, to enable NASA to make a selection by December 1, 2023. For those selected, a mission description including technical design and an implementation plan as defined in the SLS Secondary Payload User's Guide (SPUG), will be due by December 31, 2023. Please ensure the proposed payloads are consistent with safety requirements in the SPUG; are rechargeable, and consider communications limitations. A copy of the SPUG is attached for reference. Additionally, selected cubesat proposals would need to be delivered to NASA for integration by May 2024. For additional information, please contact Dr. Bleacher at [jacob.e.bleacher@nasa.gov](mailto:jacob.e.bleacher@nasa.gov).

NASA is pleased to offer this Artemis II opportunity, and while I appreciate there is a short window for the preparation payload proposals, please rest assured there will be additional calls for payload proposals on future Artemis missions.

Sincerely,

**James  
Free**

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James Free  
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James M. Free  
Associate Administrator  
for Exploration Systems Development