

PUC Limits Starlink Operations in Belize to Emergency Situations and Unserved or Underserved Areas

Belize City, January 20, 2025 – In October 2024, Starlink Belize, LLC (SBL) submitted an application to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) for a Class Licence to provide internet services across Belize.

SBL's licence application sought approval to provide:

1. fixed broadband internet services to the public, and
2. mobile internet services for aeronautical, maritime and terrestrial use.

After considering consumer expectations, the existing regulatory framework and the potential impact on current telecommunications service providers, the PUC did not approve SBL's application for a Class Licence; however, has approved that end-users are allowed to import and operate Starlink equipment in the following **limited** circumstances:

1. **Unserved or Underserved Areas:** end-users will be permitted to import and operate Starlink terminals at fixed locations that are currently unserved or underserved by existing internet providers.
2. **Vessels and Aircraft:** end-users will be permitted to import and operate Starlink terminals on vessels and/or aircrafts under the terms and conditions set forth for Earth Station in-Motion (ESIM) usage, in accordance with existing regulations.
3. **Emergency Situations:** end-users will be permitted to import and operate Starlink terminals in the event of a natural disaster, and when other service providers are unable to provide emergency service.

Additionally, the PUC requires users of Starlink equipment, currently operating in Belize, to register their equipment within 60 days of this Decision. Registration will be available via PUC's website: [PUC Spectrum Online Center](#).

New user requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and must adhere to PUC's importation of equipment process. **The Decision can be viewed in its entirety at www.puc.bz.**

The PUC remains committed to optimizing Belize's utility regulations by developing a comprehensive licensing framework to meet industry needs, while ensuring equitable and reliable services for all stakeholders.

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