

## To the Federal Communications Commission:

My name is Gideon van Buitenen, and I am writing from Dordrecht, The Netherlands. I am concerned about Reflect Orbital's proposal [SAT-LOA-20250701-00129] and its probable impact on the night environment.

I am concerned that this proposal threatens human health, the natural environment, and universal access to astronomical heritage and science, with impacts that are inescapably global.

I call on the Federal Communications Commission to reject this proposal, which would introduce orbital artificial lighting on a scale never seen before, threatening the health of ecosystems, the integrity of astronomical science, and our shared cultural heritage.

**Human health:** This proposal would disrupt human circadian rhythms, including melatonin and other hormone production, undermining the standard of living necessary for the health and well-being of individuals and their families, as guaranteed by Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

**Natural environment:** Artificial light from this proposal would alter natural habitats, disturb wildlife, and reduce biodiversity. Such ecological disruption indirectly harms humans by undermining the ecosystems that sustain our health, food security, and quality of life. These impacts are well documented in scientific literature.

**Cultural heritage:** The night sky has inspired art, literature, mythology, and scientific inquiry for millennia, and its degradation diminishes humanity's collective connection to this irreplaceable legacy. Protecting access to the night sky is therefore essential for both participating in science and preserving our shared cultural heritage.

**Access to science:** This proposal threatens universal access to astronomical science by making it increasingly difficult for individuals, including amateur astronomers, to collect observational data and participate in ongoing scientific projects, undermining the right of everyone to freely participate in the cultural life of the community and to share in scientific advancement, as recognized in Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Depriving us of the night sky erodes our sense of who we are and our place in the universe.

For these reasons, and recognizing that not all innovation is progress, I respectfully urge the FCC to reject this proposal, whose effects extend far beyond national boundaries and impact the global night sky.

Sincerely,

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