

# SMEX

## Concept Study & Downselect

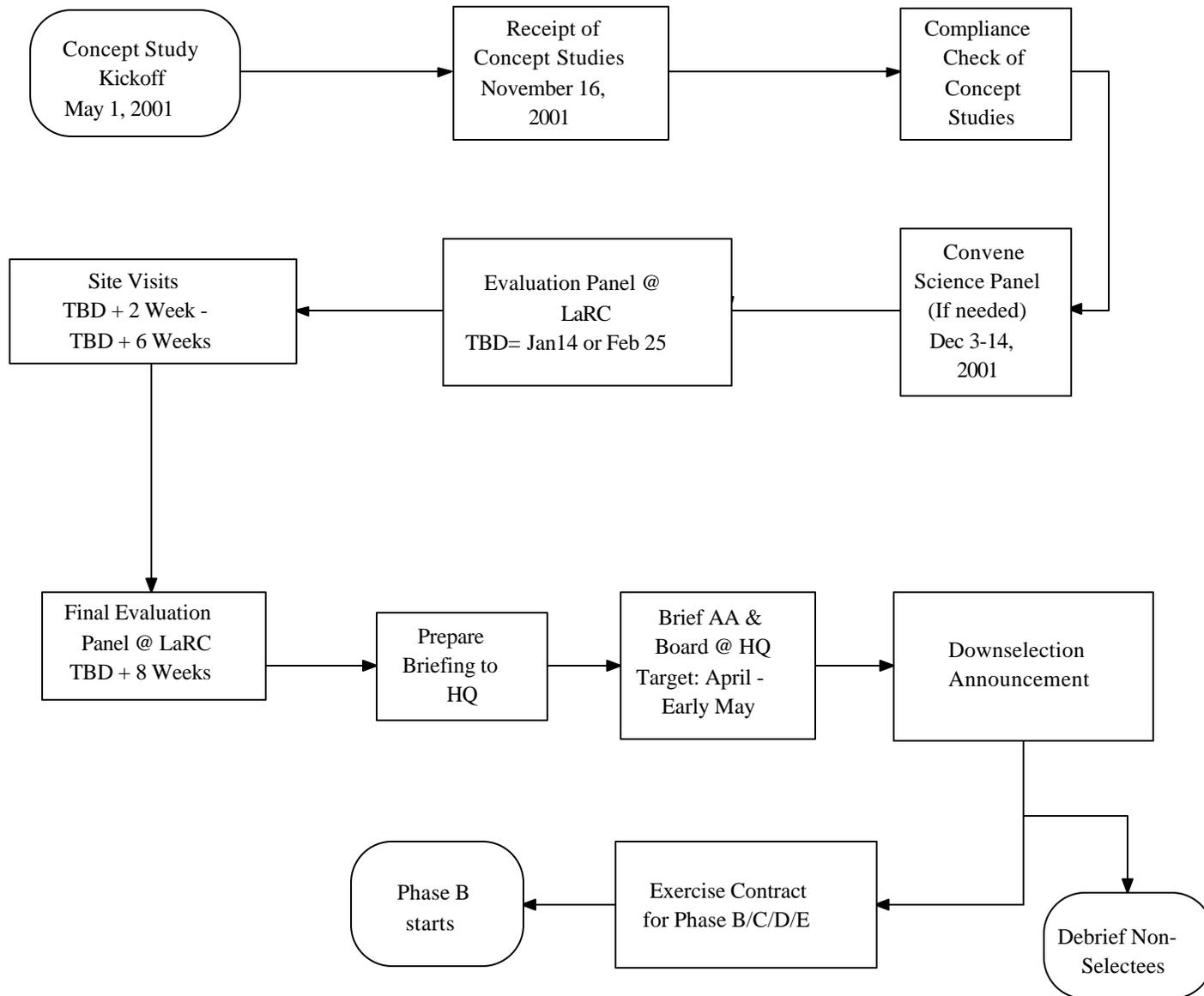
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# Downselection

## SMEX AO, Section 1.2

For stage 2, NASA will conduct a detailed review of the Phase A concept study results to evaluate the implementing details of the candidate investigations. This evaluation will consider any modifications of the scientific objectives, design details of the investigation hardware, plans for mission implementation including all technical, management, and cost factors, details of the Education and Public Outreach programs that are to be developed as an explicit part of the Phase A concept study, and plans for any new technology. As a result of this second evaluation, NASA intends to select two SMEX investigations, and possibly Missions of Opportunity, for implementation leading to flight.

# SMEX Downselection Schedule/Evaluation Flow



# Concept Study Report Evaluation

- HQ/Paul Hertz will Chair the Evaluation Team
- LaRC/Cindy Daniels will Co-Chair & lead the TMC0 evaluation
- Per the Concept Study Guidelines and schedule, final reports must be delivered to address below nlt 4:30 pm, November 16, 2001.
  - 50 copies of the Concept Study Report
  - Plus 25 copies of the fact sheet.
  - Plus a zip disk or CDROM of the CSR (prefer PDF format).
  - No late changes or errata sheets after the deadline
  - Deliver to:
    - SMEX Concept Study Support Office
    - NASA Peer Review Services
    - 500 E Street, SW
    - Suite 200
    - Washington DC 20024
    - 202-479-9030

# Concept Study Report Content

- **Phase 1 Selections based primarily on Scientific Merit and Technical Merit.**
  - The science objectives **MUST** not change from the original proposal.
  - Any changes to the science implementation will be evaluated
  - If there is no substantive change in the science implementation, then the scientific merit of the proposed investigation and the technical merit of the science implementation will not be reevaluated.
  - Science section from Proposal **MUST** be repeated in the CSR.
  - Any and all Changes **MUST** be highlighted. In addition, a CHANGES page up front that does not count against the page count should summarize significant changes to the Science Investigation section by identifying the original requirements, the new requirements, the rationale for the changes and the location in the CSR.
  - A science panel will be convened, if needed, to review any changes to Scientific Merit
- **Phase 2 Downselection will emphasize implementation: Technical feasibility of science implementation and the Technical, Management, Cost, and Other factors (TMCO) which are the last three criteria.**
  - It is expected that changes will be required in the description of the science implementation, especially as relates to the criterion for feasibility. 5 additional pages are allowed in the Science Investigation section to address this.

# Evaluation Criteria (AO §7.4.4)

- The Concept Study Report will be evaluated on 5 criteria
  - Scientific merit of investigation
    - Same criterion as in AO.
    - Science objectives MUST not change from the original proposal.
    - Scientific Merit will not be evaluated if no change.
      - Grade from original proposal will be used.
  - Technical merit and feasibility of the science implementation
    - Same criterion as in AO
    - Technical Merit not evaluated if no substantive changes in science implementation
    - Evaluate Technical Feasibility of the science implementation.
  - Feasibility of the proposed approach for mission implementation, including cost risk
    - Described in Concept Study Guidelines and discussed in TMCO section of Briefing
  - Quality of plans for education and public outreach
    - Described in Concept Study Guidelines and E/PO section of Briefing
  - Quality of plans for new technology and small disadvantaged business activities
    - Described in Concept Study Guidelines and TMCO section of Briefing

# Competition Conditions

- “Blackout” after the Kickoff Meeting
  - Communications after this meeting will be controlled.
  - Technical and expert advice should be obtained directly from identified points of contact.
  - All programmatic questions, including questions of policy, questions of interpretation, and questions of clarification, should come to HQ/Paul Hertz.
  - Answers if warranted will be provided via email to all PI’s and posted on the SMEX Downselect Information page:  
<http://spacescience.nasa.gov/codesr/smex/>
  - Charts, Q & As, and minutes from this Kickoff meeting will be posted
- Site Visits will be coordinated with Paul Hertz or Cindy Daniels
- Relevant documentation, including the Guidelines and Criteria for the Concept Study Report

<http://explorer.larc.nasa.gov/explorer/sel.html>