



Technical, Management, and Cost (TMC) Requirements

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August 24, 2015



Criteria and Guidelines for the Phase A Concept Study

- The DRAFT Criteria and Guidelines for the Phase A Concept Study is posted on the SMEX and MO Explorer Program Libraries. The same documents is posted on both sites.
 - http://explorers.larc.nasa.gov/APSMEX/SMEX/pdf_files/4_Guidelines_and_Criteria_for_the_Phase_A_Concept_Study_7-24-14.pdf
 - http://explorers.larc.nasa.gov/APSMEX/MO/pdf_files/4_Guidelines_and_Criteria_for_the_Phase_A_Concept_Study_7-24-14.pdf
- The final version of this document will be released in the near future. There will not be fundamental changes in the final version. Example of some of the changes:
 - Directions for submitting a classified appendix
 - CSR submissions electronically, one paper copy only
 - Other miscellaneous changes
- The document contains instructions for the Concept Study Report (CSR) for both Full Mission investigations and Missions of Opportunity.
 - Concept Study Requirements are designated as CS-1 to CS-93.
 - Note the following language from the document:
 - All program constraints, guidelines, definitions, and requirements specified in the AO or the PEA are applicable to the CSR, except as noted herein.
 - In case of conflict between the AO or the PEA and the CSR Guidelines, the CSR Guidelines take precedence.
 - The CSR is to be a self-contained document. Do not reference the original proposal.



Criteria and Guidelines for the Phase A Concept Study (continued)

- The Criteria and Guidelines for the Phase A Concept Study defines all Concept Study Report (CSR) preparation and submission requirements.
 - Format of CSR specified in Sections A through M.
 - CSR Structure and Page Limits are specified on page 13
 - 30 pages for Science Investigation (changes highlighted)
 - 98 for full mission **or** 75 for missions of opportunity + 2 pages for additional science instruments + 2 pages for each additional separate, non-identical flight elements + 5 pages for SC if one is proposed
 - A signed original of the CSR paper “review” copy are required. Each must be accompanied by 90 CD-ROM (CD) or single-layer DVD-ROM (DVD) containing PDF file(s) of the CSR, as well as a separate PDF of the Fact Sheet, Microsoft Excel files of cost tables and the MEL, and the electronic version of the schedule in Microsoft Project format.



NPR 7120.5E, NASA Space Flight Program and Project Management Requirements

- Once entering Phase B, Explorer Astrophysics projects will be subject to the same requirements as all other NASA missions. The CSR only satisfies some of the KDP-B deliverable requirements, and that the balance will have to be developed early in Phase B (consistent with Section 2.2.7.1 in NPR 7120.5E:
 - "In a two-step AO process, projects are down-selected following evaluation of concept study reports and the down-selection serves as KDP B. Following this selection, the process becomes conventional with the exception that KDP B products requiring Mission Directorate input will be finished as early in Phase B as feasible.").



Technical, Management, and Cost (TMC) Requirements

Explorer 2014
Phase A Kickoff

- The Criteria and Guidelines for the Phase A Concept Study contain instructions on required Technical, Management, and Cost information in Section F, G, H, J, K, and M.
 - Cost Section K - format of information specified - no page limit
 - Appendices Section M on specific topics - no page limits
 - Appendices other those specified are not allowed.
 - Appendices 9. Planetary Protection Plan is not applicable to Explorer CSRs but the subsequent Appendices should not be renumbered.



Technical, Management, and Cost (TMC) Requirements (continued)

Explorer 2014
Phase A Kickoff

- Additional Factors (continued):
 - Two new evaluation factors that are not described in the AO or the PEA have been added:
 - Factor C-7, *Ground Systems*
 - Factor C-8, *Approach and feasibility for completing Phase B*
- Range of cost and schedule (RCS) estimates will be provided to the Selection Official. The information in the CSRs, responses to questions, and information provided at site visits will be considered in preparing the RCS estimates. Findings generated by the Evaluation panel will also be considered when generating the RCS estimates.



Cost Plan Section K

- Cost Plan for Mission Phases A through E
- Cost included in the SMD cost - within the cost cap
 - All costs unless specifically excluded
 - Full cost (including CM&O) for NASA civil servants and facilities- same rules as step one costs
 - Mission unique or special launch services costs
 - Student Collaboration (SC) costs in excess of incentive
- Cost included in the SMD cost – outside the cost cap
 - SEOs if any
 - SC incentive
- Costs Excluded from the SMD cost - outside the cost cap
 - Contributed costs
 - Costs for extended mission activities



Cost Caps and Constraints

- Cost Caps
 - SMEX Full Mission \$175M (FY2015), includes the cost of the NASA-provided Launch vehicle, but not including any contributions.
 - Mission of Opportunity \$65M (FY2015) / \$35M (FY2015) balloon mission including all mission phases and the cost of delivery to the host mission, if applicable.
- Contribution limits have not changed
 - For Full Missions, NASA-provided launch services may be proposed at a charge of \$50M in FY 2015 dollars against the PI-Managed Mission Cost.
- Cost change limit for Concept Study
 - During the Concept Study, the NASA SMD Cost shall not increase by more than 20 percent from that offered in the original proposal and, in any event, must not exceed the total cost cap.



Site Visits

- Site Visits with oral briefings will be used to clarify implementation details and commitments.
- Site Visits are anticipated during the TBD timeframe for full missions and TBD timeframe for missions of opportunity at location sites to be coordinated between the PI/Proposal Team and NASA HQ/SOMA.
- Briefings for each Site Visit will be limited approximately eight hours.
- All Site Visit presentations/briefings should be in a plenary session with all Evaluation Team members attending - no splinter sessions.
- Major weaknesses, significant minor weaknesses, and written questions and/or requests for information will be submitted to the PI/Proposal Team TBD days before the Site Visit. All teams will have the same lead time.
- Only the information presented during the Site Visit and contained in the CSR will be considered during the evaluation.



Explorer 2014 CSR Evaluation Flow

