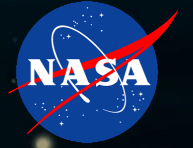


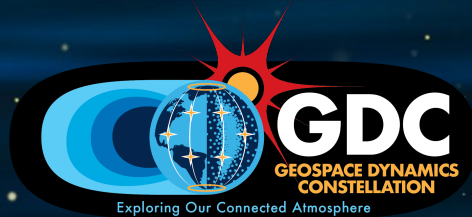
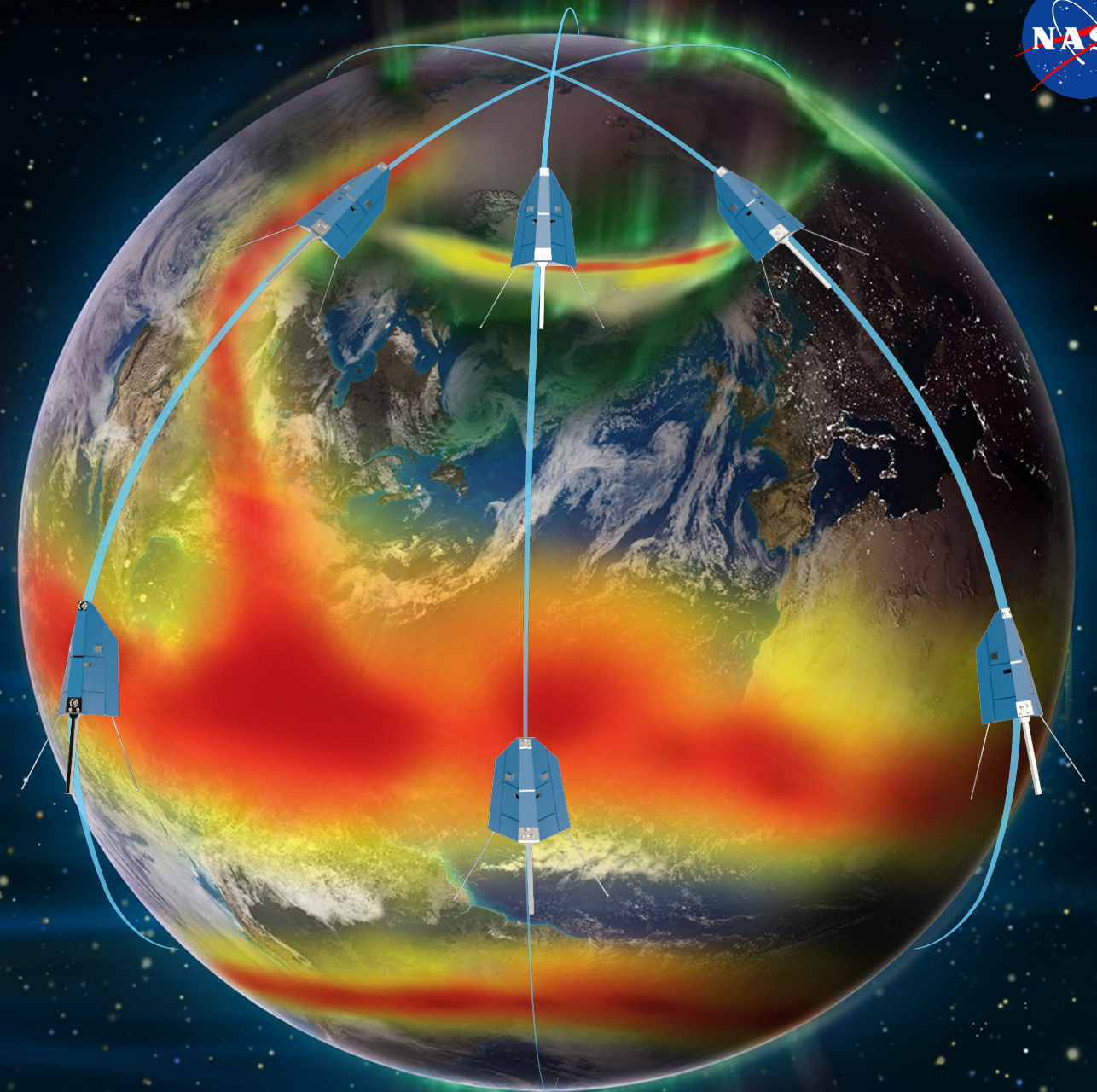
National Aeronautics and Space Administration



## GDC Science Review

Jared Leisner • GDC Program Scientist  
Heliophysics Division • NASA HQ

GDC Pre-Proposal Conference  
June 16, 2021



[www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov)

# Review Process

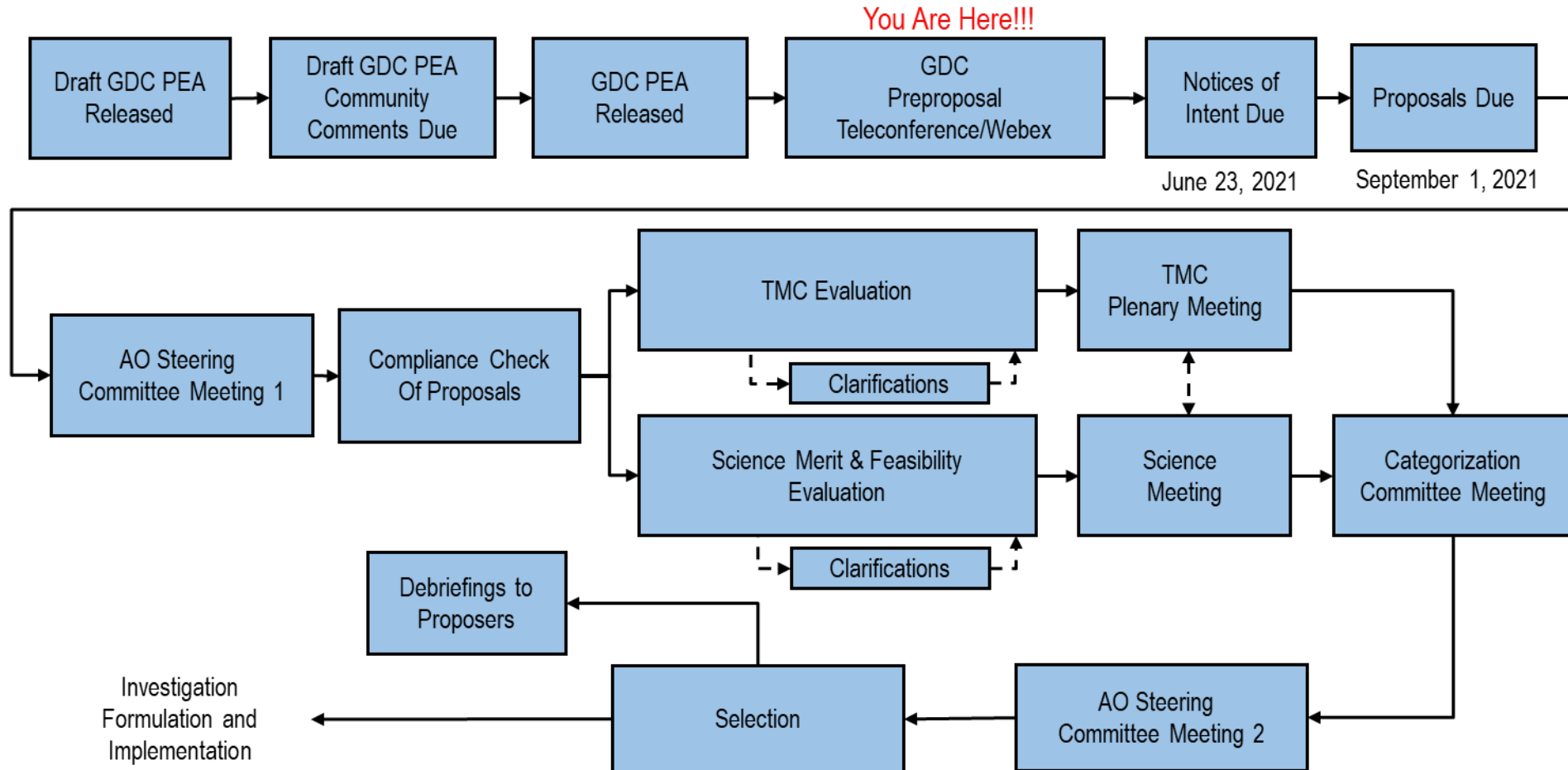


- One-step evaluation and selection process [PEA Sec. 1.1, 2.5]
- All proposal reviewers will sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement or equivalent
- Proposals will be assessed against the GDC PEA evaluation criteria [SALMON-3 Sec. 7.1.1; PEA Sec. 7.1]
  - Reviewers will be individuals with expertise in at least one of the relevant scientific and technical areas addressed within the proposal
- Each proposal will be evaluated independently and without comparison to other proposals





## GDC PEA Solicitation, Evaluation and Selection Flow



# Evaluation Criteria



- Evaluation criteria are grouped into three independent Forms: A, B, and C [PEA Sec. 7.1]
  - Form A: Science Merit of the Proposed Investigation
    - *How compelling is the science investigation?*
  - Form B: Experiment Science Implementation Merit and Feasibility of the Proposed Investigation
    - *How feasible is the science investigation to be completed with the technical implementation?*
  - Form C: TMC Feasibility of the Proposed Investigation Implementation
    - *How feasible is the technical implementation?*
    - Addressed in following presentation
- Evaluation will be composed of narrative text, specific major and minor strengths and weaknesses, and adjectival ratings (Form A and B) or risk rating (Form C)



# Forms A, B



- GDC PEA, Section 7.1, describes the changes made to the evaluation criteria described in SALMON-3 AO Sections 7.2.2 (Form A) and 7.2.3 (Form B)
- Form A Factors
  - Modification: Factor A-2 (Programmatic value of the proposed investigation) does not apply to this PEA



# Forms A, B



- GDC PEA, Section 7.1, describes the changes made to the evaluation criteria described in SALMON-3 AO Sections 7.2.2 (Form A) and 7.2.3 (Form B)
- Form B Factors
  - Modification: Factor B-3 (Renamed to Merit of the data analysis, data availability, data archiving plan, and software management plan)
    - Deletion of discussion of a sample analysis plan
    - Addition of discussion of a software management plan
  - Addition: Factor B-8 (Merit of the calibration capabilities and calibration plan)
    - Inter-calibration of investigation flight units on different observatories
    - Cross-calibration of investigation instrument with other instruments measuring the same Physical Parameter(s)
    - Pre-flight and on-board calibration



# Clarification Process



- During the evaluation process, NASA may request clarification of specific points in a proposal
  - Any such a request from NASA and the proposer's response must be in writing
  - All proposers will be treated in a uniform manner
  - Other weaknesses may be identified later in the evaluation process
- GDC PEA may be using the modified PMW Clarification Process currently in use by EVM-3
  - See TMC Review for more information
  - May be adjusted based upon any EVM-3 lessons learned
- PMW Clarification Process would be used for Forms A and B, in addition to for Form C
  - Page limits would be tracked separately for Forms A/B and C



# Categorization and Steering



- NASA will convene one Categorization and two Steering Committees for the GDC PEA [SALMON-3 Sec. 7.1.2]
  - One Steering will occur before the evaluations begin
  - Categorization and one Steering will occur after the evaluations have completed
  - All committees will consist of only NASA Civil Servants and unconflicted Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) appointees
- Categorization Committee considers the evaluation results and categorize the proposals
- Steering Committee provides an independent assessment of the evaluation process, and reviews the results of the proposal evaluations and categorizations







- The results of the proposal evaluation will be presented to the Associate Administrator for the Science Mission Directorate (SMD AA), who will make the final selections. [SALMON-3 Sec. 7.1.3]
- Selection decisions will prioritize cost-effective, resource-efficient investigations with significant science return, manageable cost risk, and demonstrated understanding of the challenges presented by the operational environment and associated mitigation plans for addressing those challenges. [PEA Sec. 1.1]
  - May take into account a wide range of programmatic factors [PEA Sec. 7.2]
  - Will take into account accommodation of the investigation instruments as a complete science payload [PEA Sec. 2.6, 7.2.1]
- Outside of GDC science payload, potential technical maturation selection of instrument(s) that measure the local neutral wind velocity



# Questions?



## Answers to previously submitted questions:

<https://lws.larc.nasa.gov/gdc/faq.html>

(*Questions & Answers* tab on SOMA's GDC Acquisition Homepage)

Questions accepted up to 21 days before the proposal due date [PEA Sec. 9]

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