

The Square Kilometre Array (Ska) Project: An International Engineering Perspective

Peter J Hall

International SKA Project Office, PO Box 2, 7990 AA Dwingeloo, The Netherlands

E-mail: hall@skatelescope.org

Abstract

The pace of the international Square Kilometre Array (SKA) project is accelerating, with major concept reviews completed recently and a number of technology demonstrators underway. First-round submissions to host the telescope, incorporating initial radio-frequency environment measurements, have been lodged by four countries, including Australia. The SKA timeline currently shows a site being selected in 2006, and one or more technology concepts chosen in 2007 – 2008. The telescope is expected to be operational, in various phases, in the period 2015 – 2020. This paper gives a status review of the project, with an emphasis on engineering concept development and demonstration.