Offshore Leasing, Exploration and Development Process

Develop OCS 5-Year Program (18 to 24 months)
- Solicit Comments
- Publish Draft Proposed Program
- Announce Proposed Program
- Publish Draft EIS
- Announce Proposed Final Program
- Publish Final EIS
- 60-Day Period with Congress
- 60-Day OCS 5-Year Leasing Program

Planning for Specific Sale (1 year)
- Publish Call for Information
- Define Sale Area
- Publish Draft EIS Proposed Notice
- Publish Final EIS
- Publish Proposed Notice of Sale
- Lease Sale

Exploration Plan Approval (18 to 24 months)
- Submit Exploration Plan
- Begin Environmental Assessment
- Approve Exploration Plan
- Approve Drilling; Grant Environmental Permits
- Start Exploration Drilling
- Complete First Exploration Well

Development & Production Plan Approval (3 to 5 years)
- Submit Development and Production Plan
- Begin CZM Consistency Review
- Publish Draft EIS
- Publish Final EIS
- Obtain CZM Consistency
- Approve Development and Production Plan
- Production Well Application

EIS: Environmental Impact Statement | CD: Consistency Determination | CP: Comment Period | CZM: Coastal Zone Management | Source: BOEM

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