OCS Oil and Gas Leasing, Exploration, and Development Process

**Pre Lease**

**Total Years**

- **0-5**
  - Call for Information Published
  - NOI for EIS
  - 45 Day Comment Period

- **5-10**
  - Define Sale Area
  - Environmental Consultations
  - 45-90 Day Comment Period
  - Final EIS Published
  - Proposed Notice
  - CD Sent to States

- **10-15**
  - Exploration Plan Approved

**Post Lease**

- **15 Years Total**
  - Exploration Plan Submitted
  - Environmental Assessment
  - 60 Day CZM Review
  - Exploration Plan Review
  - APD Decision
  - Permits Granted
  - Exploration Drilling Starts
  - First Exploration Well(s) Completed
  - Delineation Well Drilling

- **Development and Production Plan Approval**
  - Development & Production Plan Submitted
  - Company Submits CZM Consistency Certification
  - CZM Consistency Concurrence from State
  - Then Development and Production Plan Decision
  - Production Well Application
  - First Oil/Gas Production

**Abbreviations:** APD, Application for Permit to Drill; NOI, Notice of Intent; CD, Consistency Determination; CZM, Coastal Zone Management; EIS, Environmental Impact Statement; NEPA, National Environmental Policy Act; PEIS, Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement.

**Timelines are approximations based upon historical experience.**