National OCS Program Development Process

This is the process for developing the National Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Leasing Program, in accordance with Section 18 of the OCS Lands Act. The process begins with the broadest consideration of the OCS and the Secretary of the Department of the Interior can narrow the size, timing, and location of potential lease sales throughout the process. This process includes 5 major steps, 3 public comment periods, and 3 analytical phases.

1. REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)
   - 45-day public comment period

2. DRAFT PROPOSED PROGRAM (DPP)
   - 60-day public comment period on Draft Proposed Program*

3. PROPOSED PROGRAM (PP)
   - 90-day public comment period on Proposed Program*

4. PROPOSED FINAL PROGRAM (PFP)
   - 60-DAY Presidential and Congressional WAITING PERIOD

5. SECRETARY OF INTERIOR APPROVES NEW FIVE-YEAR NATIONAL OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF OIL & GAS LEASING PROGRAM

*Optional public engagement meetings