OCS Oil and Gas Leasing, Exploration, and Development Process (Source: BOEM)

**Pre-lease**
- Solicit Comments
- 45-day comment period
- Draft proposed program
- 60-day comment period
- Proposed program
- Draft EIS
- 90-day comment period
- Proposed final program
- Final EIS
- 60-day period with Congress
- Five-year program announced

**Planning for Specific Oil and Gas Lease Sale**
- Call for information
  - Notice of intent to prepare EIS
- 45-day comment period
- Define proposed sale area
- Draft EIS published
- 60 to 90-day comment period
- Final EIS published
  - Proposed notice of sale to Governors
- 30-day comment period
- Final notice of sale
  - Record of Decision
- 30-day period
- Sale
- Leases issued

**Post-lease**
- Exploration plan submitted
- Environmental assessment
  - CZMA review initiated
- 30-day period
- Exploration plan approved
  - CZMA review approved
- Application for permit to drill approved
- Permits from other agencies granted
- Exploration drilling initiated
- Delineation drilling

**Oil and Gas Exploration Plan Approval**
- Development & production plan
  - Environmental assessment
  - CZMA review initiated
- 90-day period
- Draft EIS
- 90-day comment period
- Final EIS
- Development & production plan approved
  - CZMA review approved
  - Permits granted
- Production well application
- First oil and gas production