

How to Organize Your Nerdergy for a Better Environmental Assessment – Visual Effects and Historic Properties

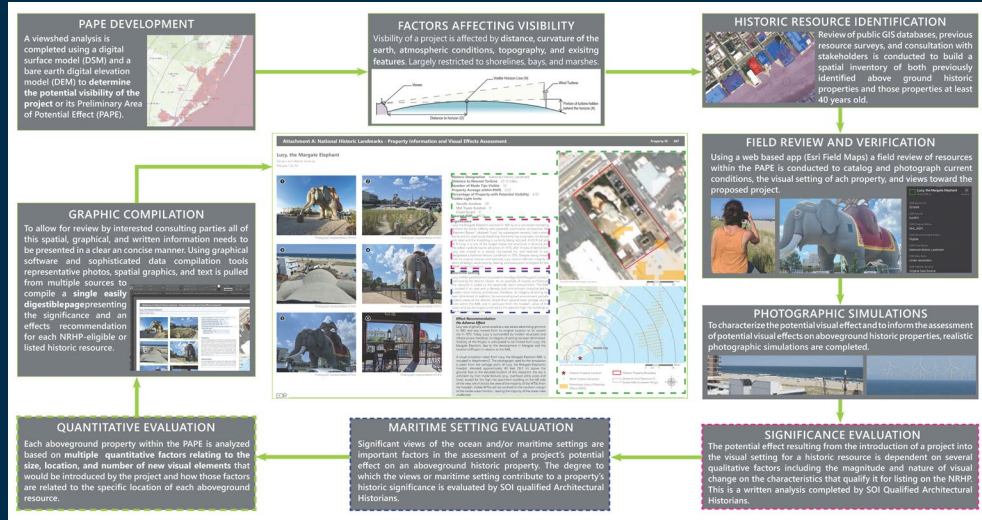
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Section 106 & Historic Properties

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires that federal agencies consider the effect of their undertakings on historic properties. Undertakings such as the construction, operation, and decommissioning of an offshore wind project are covered by Section 106.

Evaluation of potential adverse visual effects to historic properties requires both detailed quantitative analyses and thoughtful, thorough qualitative assessments. This combination makes agency findings more susceptible to legitimate disagreements and a contentious regulatory process.

Making Complex Offshore Wind Assessments Clearer: Using visual simulations, GIS, and graphic design to enhance understanding.



Historic Resource Effects Assessment

Visualizations and simulations are a critical component of assessments but are prone to misinterpretation if the specific conditions and circumstances represented are unclear. Smart graphical presentations can minimize the risks of misunderstanding across diverse audiences.

GIS, Graphics, & Data Presentation

A HRVEA is rooted in spatial analyses and graphic presentations from the beginning of consultation through the final agency decision. The ability to clearly communicate a vast amount of data and complex factors to non-specialist audiences is critical to agency decisions informed by consultation with affected communities. Integrating spatial and graphic data together into one concise document focused on each resource allows for effective communication of complex cultural resource effects assessments.

Workshops and Tutorials

Effective assessments and informed consultations are enhanced by walk-through presentations and Q&A sessions with stakeholders and consulting parties. Planning for workshops should be a key component of stakeholder engagement efforts.



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