EIS INFORMS DECISION-MAKING

The EIS assesses, compares, and discloses to the public the impacts of the proposed action alternatives versus no action and provides a tool for decision-makers, including the Partners and the US Bureau of Reclamation.

The following summarizes the steps in the EIS process and decision-making:

1. **RELEASE DRAFT EIS**
   - Notice that EIS is available to the public; sent to interested parties

2. **PUBLIC REVIEW OF DRAFT EIS**
   - 90 day public comment period

3. **PUBLIC MEETINGS/HEARING ON DRAFT EIS**
   - Reclamation and local Partners conduct public meetings/hearing on Draft EIS

4. **RESPONSE TO COMMENTS**
   - Agencies/staff develop written responses for Final EIS

5. **FINAL EIS/PLANNING REPORT**
   - Reclamation releases Final EIS and a recommended preferred alternative

6. **PUBLIC REVIEW OF FINAL EIS**
   - Local public meetings/hearings/comments

7. **PARTNERS MAKE DECISION ON THEIR PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE**
   - Partners review technical data and public comment to make local decision

8. **RECORD OF DECISION**
   - Reclamation considers local Partners, public comment and other criteria in reaching final decision

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