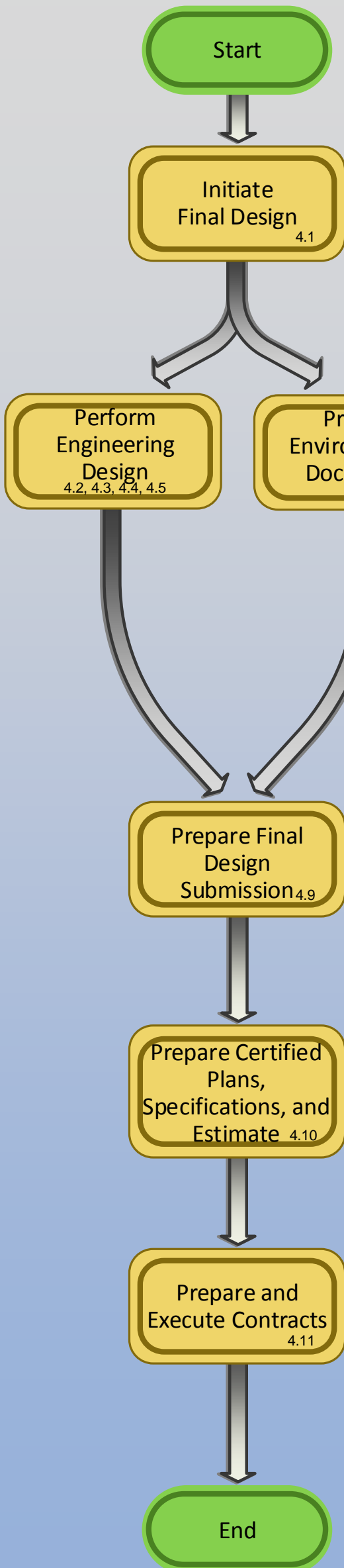


Final Design



Final Design Initiation includes the review of the approved Preliminary Engineering documents and updates to the Project Reporting System to reflect any changes that may have occurred since Preliminary Engineering closeout. The Executive Regional Manager also sets up the Final Design job number and notifies the subject matter expert units of the upcoming project.

The Final Design Phase includes the continued advancement and completion of engineering design tasks initiated during the Preliminary Engineering Phase, such as roadway design, bridge design, right of way and access engineering, utility engineering, environmental permits and clearances, and community outreach. Public Outreach efforts during Final Design will vary depending on the level of impact to the surrounding community. Local officials and agency coordination meetings may be necessary during Final Design.

The preparation of Environmental Documents during Final Design includes the completion of any necessary Environmental Reevaluations and the securing of any needed environmental clearances and approvals. The Final Design Environmental Documents also include activities associated with incorporating the project's environmental commitments. Public outreach may be necessary to update the general public on the project and to fulfill National Environmental Policy Act requirements when getting final approval of the Environmental Document.

The Final Design Submission includes the project's final construction contract plans, specifications and construction schedule and estimate. The plans typically consist of the following types: (1) roadway, (2) lighting, (3) traffic signing, striping, and signals, (4) intelligent transportation systems facilities, (5) landscape, (6) drainage, (7) structures, (8) environmental, and (9) reforestation. An Interim Design Submission may be required at the Department's direction to provide feedback on the design prior to the Final Design Submission.

The Designer's Plans, Specifications and Estimate (PS&E) package shall be prepared by the Designer in response to comments received from project stakeholders on the project's final design submission package. The project's PS&E package shall then be certified by the Department.

For PoDI projects, a Pre-PS&E review will be required by FHWA when the Final Design Submission falls less than 100% complete. All FHWA comments will be addressed and the decisions documented in the project's Design Communications Report.

The development, execution, and implementation of project-specific contracts and agreements, such as utility agreements, and construction engineering contracts shall be completed during Final Design. These contracts and agreements shall be in place prior to the completion of Final Design. Modifications to the consultant design agreement shall be negotiated prior to the conclusion of Final Design to secure construction engineering services during construction.