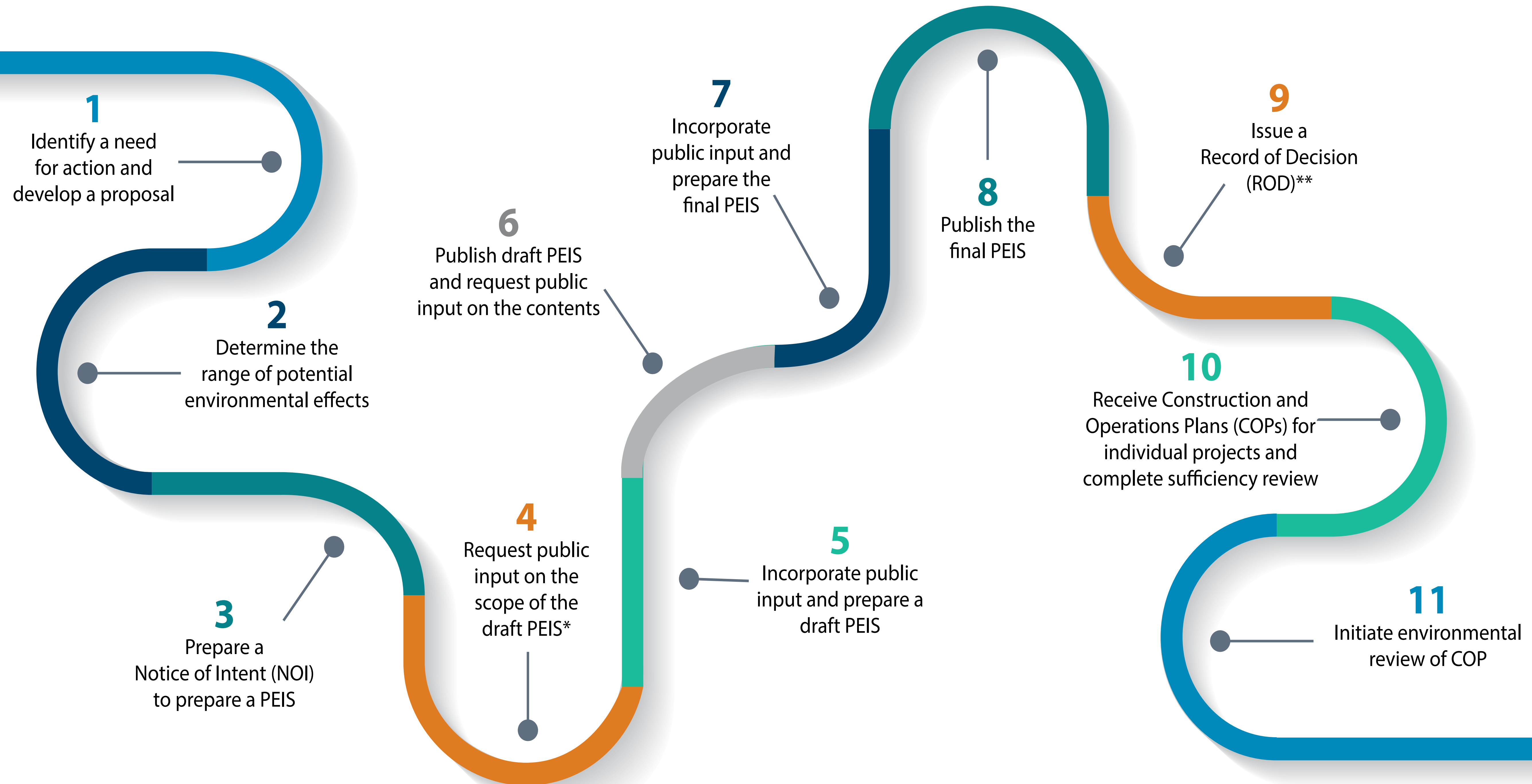




New York Bight Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) Process



* **Scope:** Scoping generally involves identifying significant issues, eliminating non-significant issues from further study, and determining the range of actions, alternatives, and impacts to be considered by the PEIS.

** **Record of Decision:** The ROD is the final step for agencies in the EIS process. It is a document that states what the decision is; identifies the alternatives considered, including the environmentally preferred alternative; and discusses mitigation plans, including any enforcement and monitoring commitments.





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What is NEPA?

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is a law that was passed in 1970 that established a national environmental policy and a process to implement it. It requires Federal agencies to engage in an environmental review process to consider potential environmental impacts of and alternatives to any major action they propose. This environmental review process has two major purposes: ensuring that agencies consider potential environmental consequences of proposed actions, and informing the public about their decision making. Opportunities for public review and comment are included throughout the NEPA process.

What is the New York Bight PEIS?

The New York Bight PEIS is a new step in the NEPA process for offshore wind development that will occur prior to COP submission. The PEIS describes the potential environmental and social impacts resulting from development of the six New York Bight leases. The PEIS will analyze programmatic avoidance, minimization, mitigation, and monitoring measures that could apply to the New York Bight leases and will include a focused, regional cumulative analysis.

How can the public be involved?

To develop a PEIS that reflects the best science, technology, research, and data available, BOEM conducts public involvement to request comments from stakeholders, organizations, Federal agencies, and Tribal, State, and local governments that could be affected by Outer Continental Shelf offshore wind development. This input is incorporated throughout the development of the draft PEIS and subsequent final PEIS. BOEM is also facilitating additional public involvement opportunities in parallel with the NEPA process to gather input from interested stakeholders.

What comes next?

COPs will be submitted for each New York Bight lease area and project-specific environmental reviews pursuant to NEPA will begin. These environmental reviews will build off of the PEIS. This allows for the project-specific environmental reviews to incorporate the analyses of what is similar across the New York Bight lease areas by reference and to focus on what unique for each project. The public will have opportunities to provide input during the project-specific environmental review stage before any projects are approved.