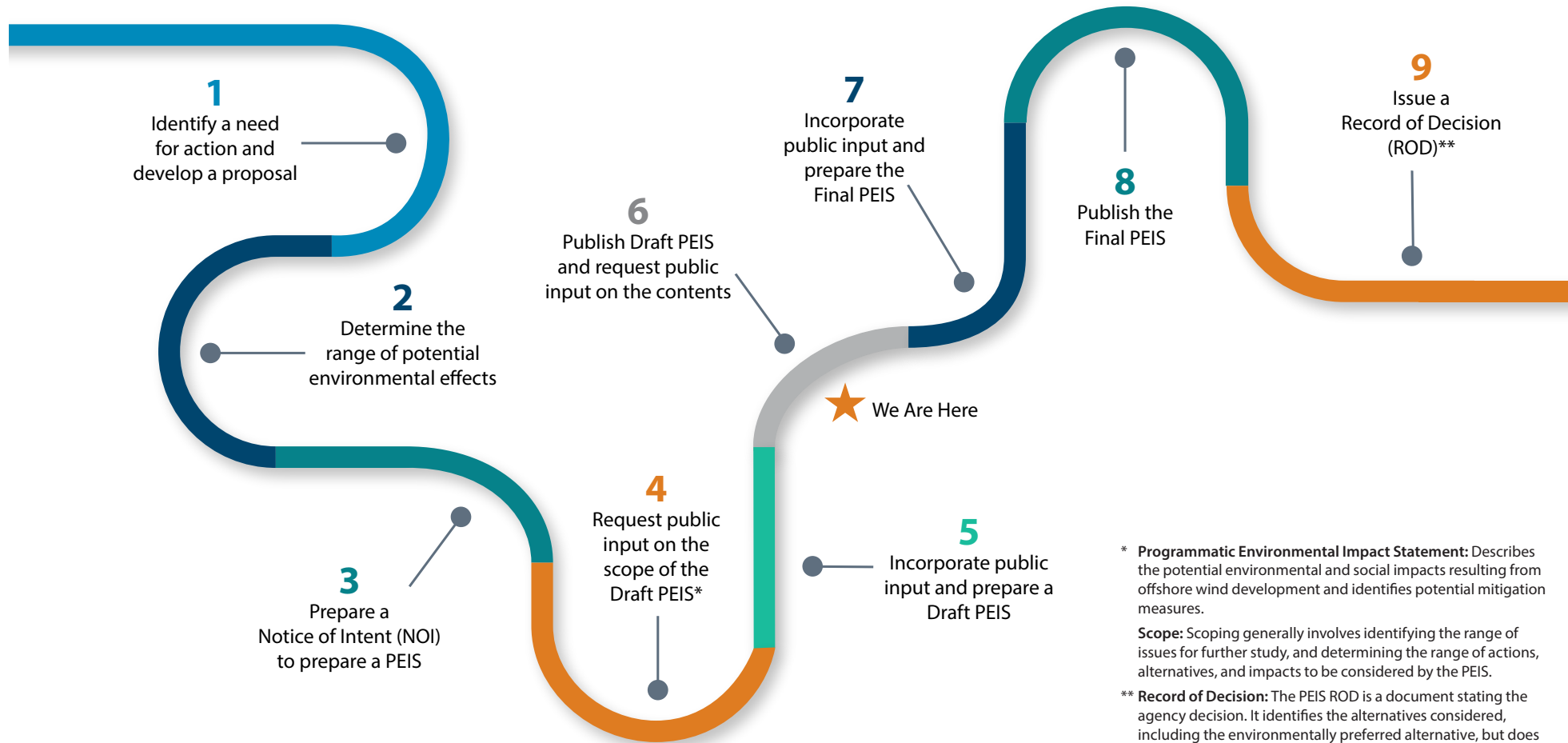




Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) Process



* **Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement:** Describes the potential environmental and social impacts resulting from offshore wind development and identifies potential mitigation measures.

Scope: Scoping generally involves identifying the range of issues for further study, and determining the range of actions, alternatives, and impacts to be considered by the PEIS.

** **Record of Decision:** The PEIS ROD is a document stating the agency decision. It identifies the alternatives considered, including the environmentally preferred alternative, but does not approve any projects.



For more information, visit BOEM.gov/California



California Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement



What is NEPA?

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is a law signed 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 California Offshore Wind PEIS?

The California Offshore Wind Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) is an elective additional NEPA process that BOEM has undertaken for offshore wind development that is occurring after lease issuance but prior to project-specific environmental reviews. The PEIS describes the potential environmental and social impacts resulting from development of the five leases offshore California, near Morro Bay and Humboldt Bay. The PEIS also evaluates potential programmatic avoidance, minimization, mitigation, and monitoring measures that could apply to the California leases and includes 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 activities to request comments from Tribal Nations, Federal, state and local government agencies, non-government organizations, key stakeholders, and concerned citizens that may be interested or affected by California 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 with Environmental Justice communities in parallel with the NEPA process to gather additional input.

What comes next?

Construction and Operations Plans (COPs) may be submitted for each California lease area and project-specific environmental reviews pursuant to NEPA will begin. These environmental reviews will build off the PEIS. This allows for the project-specific environmental reviews to incorporate the analyses of what is similar across the California lease areas by reference and to focus on what is unique for each project. The public will have opportunities to provide input during the project-specific environmental review stage.