

January 23, 2018

RESOLUTION 2018-23
BOROUGH OF BRADLEY BEACH
Opposing
NEW JERSEY OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS ACTIVITIES

Mayor Engelstad offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, on January 8, 2018, the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) announced in the Federal Register notice the release of their Draft Proposed Program (DPP) for the 2019-2024 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program. BOEM is requesting public comment on the DPP as well as formal scoping for a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the 2019-2024 Program; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Bradley Beach hereby acknowledges that the residents of Bradley Beach desire a healthy, thriving, and sustainable future for themselves, future generations, and our ocean; and

WHEREAS, this new draft proposed oil and gas leasing plan includes the entire Atlantic Ocean from Maine to Florida, **including the waters off New Jersey within 3 miles of beaches**, as well as including other ocean areas totaling some 90% of US ocean waters; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey boasts over 127 miles of beautiful ocean coastline and hundreds of miles of back-bays, estuaries, and other waterways connected to the Atlantic Ocean; and

WHEREAS, the Jersey Shore is essential to the health of our communities, environment and the thriving economy of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the physical, hydrodynamic, and biological characteristics of the ocean off the Jersey Shore are unique in the world, as more than 300 species of fish, nearly 350 species of birds, 5 species of sea turtles, and many marine mammals such as 20 species of whales and dolphins, 1 species of porpoise, and 4 species of seals, frequent this region. Nine endangered species, four of which are whales, can be found in these ocean waters, including the Atlantic Right Whale, one of the world's most endangered marine mammals. The region also serves as an essential migratory pathway for many of these species; and

WHEREAS, the Jersey Shore sustains the economy of the region with its bounty of natural resources and intrinsic values for millions of people through tourism. Tourism brings more than \$32 billion to NJ's economy each year and provides jobs to more than 500,000 people; and

WHEREAS, recreational and commercial fisheries in NJ provide enormous economic benefits, including revenue, food production, and recreational activities. In 2014, recreational fishing supported nearly 20,000 jobs and resulted in \$2 billion of retail sales. Commercial fishing supports nearly 7,300 jobs and provides \$152 million in landings, not including restaurant and retail sales; and




NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this 23rd day of January, 2018

The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bradley Beach hereby opposes offshore oil and gas exploration and drilling activities that would affect the coast of New Jersey, and calls upon **Secretary of the Interior Ryan K. Zinke** who oversees the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management to withdraw New Jersey and the entire Atlantic Ocean from consideration for the offshore oil and gas exploration, development, or drilling.

Seconded by Councilman Bonnell and adopted upon the following vote:

	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Weber	X			
Mr. Goldfarb	X			
Mr. Bonnell	X			
Mr. Cotler	X			
Mayor Engelstad	X			

I, Kelly Barrett, Municipal Clerk, Borough of Bradley Beach, Monmouth County, New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Mayor and Council at the January 23, 2018 meeting.



KELLY BARRETT, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk