



TOWN OF SHALLOTTE

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A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS OPPOSITION TO OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING AND EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING SEISMIC AIRGUN BLASTING

RESOLUTION 18-01

WHEREAS, the United States government has expressed interest in opening the Atlantic Ocean to offshore oil and gas development and exploration, including risky methods such as seismic airgun blasting; and,

WHEREAS, seismic airguns fire intense blasts of compressed air, one of the loudest manmade sounds in the ocean every 10-12 seconds for days, weeks, or months on end; and,

WHEREAS, seismic airgun noise has been shown to harm and injure dolphins, whales, endangered sea turtles, fish, and other marine life; and,

WHEREAS, exploratory and commercial drilling, extraction, and transportation of offshore oil and gas resources pose a significant risk of an oil spills and chronic leakage; and,

WHEREAS, eventual offshore drilling may require significant onshore infrastructure, such as pipelines or refineries, which would harm the character of the coast; and,

WHEREAS, offshore drilling activities pose threats to treasured vacation destinations on Brunswick County Coast, which ARE of intrinsic economic value for numerous industries, provide essential nursery habitats for recreational and commercially important fisheries, and act as natural buffers from storm surge and hurricanes; and,

WHEREAS, the town of Shallotte recognizes that the tourism and fishing industries, which depend on a healthy and vibrant coastal environment, both serve as major economic drivers benefiting the current and future residents, property owners, and visitors to Shallotte and Brunswick County; and,

WHEREAS, the Federal Government already determined to protect the tourism and fishing industry of Florida by excluding Florida from offshore testing and drilling; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Shallotte endeavors to be a good steward of the state and region's environment and its resources; and,

WHEREAS, exploration and development of oil and gas resources off the coast of North Carolina will not effectively address the long-term energy needs of our country.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF SHALLOTTE THAT:

Offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration, including seismic air gun blasting, will put North Carolina's environment, beaches, marine resources and local economies at risk; therefore, the Board of Aldermen expresses its opposition to these activities and urges the federal government not to pursue such practices off North Carolina's coast.

The Clerk shall forward a copy of this Resolution to Governor Roy Cooper, U. S. Senators Tom Tillis and Richard Burr; U. S. Representative David Rouzer; State Senator Bill Rabon.; State Representative Frank Iler; U.S. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, The Brunswick County Board of Commissioners and any other interested parties.

Approved this 6th day of March, 2018.

ATTEST:

Walter Reed

Mayor

