

**CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA
RESOLUTION 2018-30**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS DRILLING AND EXPLORATION, INCLUDING SEISMIC AIRGUN BLASTING, DUE TO THE RISK THESE ACTIVITIES POSE TO FLORIDA'S ENVIRONMENT, BEACHES, MARINE RESOURCES AND LOCAL ECONOMIES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the federal government has expressed interest in opening the Atlantic Ocean and Eastern Gulf of Mexico to offshore oil and gas development and exploration, including controversial 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 at 200-230 decibels, every 10 seconds, 24 hours a day for weeks to months at a time, causing environmental disturbances that could prove harmful or injure and kill dolphins, whales, endangered sea turtles, fish, and other marine life; and

WHEREAS, the full impact of seismic airgun blasting and offshore drilling are not yet fully understood by scientists, the oil and gas industry, or the federal government; and

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

WHEREAS, offshore drilling activities pose threats to the Gulf of Mexico, the Atlantic Ocean, economically important fisheries, and every eco-system throughout the Florida Keys; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recommends that it would be more economically and ecologically responsible to pursue non-polluting sources of renewable energy such as solar and wind, that pose less risk to the coastal environment and economic health, before using uncertain methods of seismic airgun blasting for offshore oil and gas deposits.

WHEREAS, the waters of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic support 70,000 jobs in the Florida Keys, and generate about \$4.4 billion in revenue through fisheries, tourism and related industries, which could be damaged irreparably by one oil drilling disaster.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. The above recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein.

Section 2: The Marathon City Council opposes offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration, including seismic airgun blasting, which will put Florida's environment, beaches, marine resources and local economies at risk, and urges the Federal Government not to pursue such practices off Florida's coast.

Section 3: That the City Clerk is directed to submit copies of this Resolution to President Donald J. Trump, Governor Rick Scott, Secretary Ryan Zinke, Senator Bill Nelson, Senator Marco Rubio, and Congressman Carlos Curbelo.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA, THIS 27TH DAY OF MARCH, 2018

THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA



Mayor Michelle Coldiron

AYES: Cook, Bartus, Senmartin, Zieg, Coldiron
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None


ATTEST:



Diane Clavier, City Clerk

(City Seal)

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE USE AND RELIANCE OF THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA ONLY:



David Migut, City Attorney