



RESOLUTION OPPOSING OFFSHORE EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION OF OIL & GAS

WHEREAS, the following statements provide the basis for this resolution opposing offshore exploration and production of oil and gas:

Atlantic Beach is a thriving municipality surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean and Bogue Sound and we are fortunate to enjoy this pristine coastal environment that draws residents and visitors here from all over.

Atlantic Beach strives to achieve the proper balance between quality of life, commerce, development, and environmental protection in order to maintain our standing as a high quality residential community and desirable tourism destination.

Our local economy is based primarily on the tourism, real estate, and other industries that thrive *because of* the pristine natural environment in and around Atlantic Beach.

The entire State of North Carolina's economy is heavily dependent on tourism, much of which occurs along the State's hundreds of miles of ocean shoreline and thousands of miles of estuarine shoreline.

North Carolina's coastal waters and natural habitats provide excellent wild-caught seafood that is renowned for its quality and is responsible for our area's reputation as one of the premier sport fishing destinations in the world.

Exploration, extraction and transportation of offshore oil and gas pose significant risks to the natural environment that is critical to the continued well-being of Atlantic Beach.

Offshore oil and gas production requires substantial onshore infrastructure, such as pipelines and refineries, which have the potential to negatively impact coastal North Carolina.


There is currently no mechanism for any revenue generated from offshore oil and gas production to be shared with the local governments on the coast of North Carolina. And, it is these local governments that would assume most of the risk from such production and would bear the weight of the impact of additional infrastructure needed if such production were to occur.

WHEREAS, for the reasons stated above, the Town of Atlantic Beach believes that the risk associated with offshore exploration and production of oil and gas outweighs the any potential benefits to our town and its residents and visitors.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Atlantic Beach Town Council joins numerous other coastal local governments in expressing its opposition to the exploration and development of oil and gas resources in the continental shelf or elsewhere off the coast of North Carolina.

This the 23rd day of November, 2015.

ATTEST:


Katrina Tyer - Town Clerk




A. B. Cooper, III, Mayor