

Resolution # 2016-4

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BETHANY BEACH,
DELAWARE IN OPPOSITION TO SEISMIC TESTING AND OFFSHORE DRILLING ACTIVITIES
ALONG THE ATLANTIC COAST**

WHEREAS, The U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is currently in the process of trying to open the mid and south Atlantic planning areas for exploration and development of offshore oil and gas, which include using seismic testing or geological and geophysical surveys, and

WHEREAS, the economies of the Town of Bethany Beach and nearby towns depend heavily on tourism, recreational fishing and the industries that support it, and

WHEREAS, seismic testing is potentially devastating to our coastal area's fish and marine life since the volume, intensity, and duration of sounds emitted have been shown to harm fish and to drive them from traditional feeding and breeding habitat, and to injure and kill marine animals such as dolphins and whales, and

WHEREAS, exploratory and commercial offshore oil drilling and activities, including extraction and transportation of offshore oil and gas resources pose the risk of a spill, and

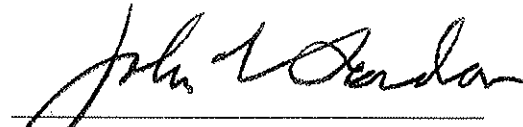
WHEREAS, such spills have caused severe damage to coastal habitat and the tourism and fishing based economies of coastal towns in other planning areas where offshore oil and gas development has been permitted, and

WHEREAS, the residents, workers and businesses of, and hundreds of thousands or recreational visitors to the Town of Bethany Beach should not have to face the threat of an oil spill and its impact on the local habitat, property values, and local economy, and

NOW THEREFORE, the Town Council of the Town of Bethany Beach, Delaware do hereby resolve by majority vote on the Town Commissioners that:

The Town of Bethany Beach opposes the proposed oil and gas development activities, including seismic testing, in the mid and south Atlantic regions generally, and off the Delaware coast specifically.

SO RESOLVED, this 18th Day of March, 2016.



Jack Gordon, Mayor