



Resolution

To Oppose Exploration for Oil & Gas and Seismic Blasting Off the Coast of North Carolina

Whereas, the Carteret County Chamber of Commerce advocates residential, business and commercial development that is totally and fully compatible with our water-based economy to the benefit of tourism and maritime interests along the Crystal Coast; and

Whereas, offshore exploration for oil and natural gas in the Atlantic Ocean and associated seismic blasting represent a direct threat to the coastal environment of North Carolina, due to the risk of pollution and other harmful effects to marine mammals, turtles, fish, migratory birds and other aquatic life; and

Whereas, the economic sustainability of Carteret County is directly dependent on visitors who come from all over the world to enjoy the natural beauty of our clean Crystal Coast beaches, to visit the undisturbed wilderness area of Cape Lookout National Seashore and to explore the sounds, marshes, wetlands, estuaries, rivers, creeks and streams that abound in Carteret County; and

Whereas, many of these natural areas provide sanctuary and nesting/breeding grounds for diverse groups of wildlife, having intrinsic ecological value; and

Whereas, our coastal waters are prime commercial and recreational fisheries, and coastal natural habitats provide the world with some of the best wild-caught seafood, renowned for its freshness and exceptional quality; and

Whereas, estimated revenues from offshore drilling and the benefits to the State of North Carolina pale in comparison to the proven and anticipated growth of revenues that are directly attributed to coastal North Carolina's tourism and fishing industries; and

Open for Business...At Your Service

Serving North Carolina's Crystal Coast from Cape Lookout to Cape Carteret including Morehead City, Beaufort, Down East, Newport, Atlantic Beach, Pine Knoll Shores, Indian Beach & Emerald Isle

Carteret County Chamber of Commerce • 801 Arendell St., Suite 1, Morehead City, NC 28557

(252) 726-6350 • (800) 622-6278 • Fax (252) 726-3505

www.nccoastchamber.com • cart.coc@nccoastchamber.com

Whereas, the inherent serious risks to our region from offshore oil and gas exploration and drilling have the potential to irrevocably harm and destroy our natural environment, our economic well-being, our overall quality of life and the health and safety of residents and visitors; and

Whereas, the commercial petroleum industry, to include drilling, extraction, collection and transportation of offshore oil and gas resources, is viewed by the Carteret County Chamber as being noncomplementary and incompatible with Carteret County's water-based economy;

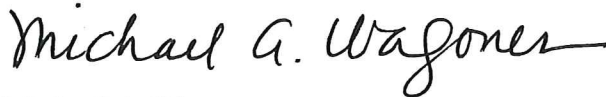
Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Board of Directors of the Carteret County Chamber of Commerce is opposed to seismic blasting and the exploration and drilling for oil and natural gas off of the North Carolina coast.

Adopted, this the 5th Day of September 2015.



Kerry Youngblood, Ph.D.
Chair, Board of Directors

Attested by:



Michael A. Wagoner
President