

CITY OF HINESVILLE

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HINESVILLE, EXPRESSING THE CITY OF HINESVILLE'S OPPOSITION TO SEISMIC TESTING AND OFFSHORE DRILLING ACTIVITIES.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) has proposed opening the mid and south Atlantic planning areas to the exploration and development of offshore oil and gas which includes the utilization of methods such as seismic blasting; and,

WHEREAS, scientific studies have found seismic testing to have a negative impact on marine fisheries and marine mammals important to Georgia communities and local coastal economies; and,

WHEREAS, the full impacts of seismic testing and offshore drilling in the Atlantic Ocean are not yet fully understood by scientists or the federal government, and lower-impact technologies may be available for exploration in the near future; and,

WHEREAS, exploratory and commercial drilling, extraction, and transportation of offshore oil and gas reserved pose a risk of a spill; and,

WHEREAS, eventual offshore drilling may require onshore infrastructure, such as pipelines or refineries, which may compromise the character of our coastal landscapes and our communities; and,

WHEREAS, seismic testing and offshore drilling activities may interfere with critical military preparedness, training, and testing activities taking place onshore in Georgia and off the coast of Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Hinesville is concerned about the potential impacts of offshore exploration and drilling activities may have on Georgia's coast and communities; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Hinesville is a Georgia municipality whose citizens and economy are dependent on healthy natural environments and safe ocean systems to contribute to high quality of life in the city and recruit businesses, encourage economic growth and invite new residents; and,

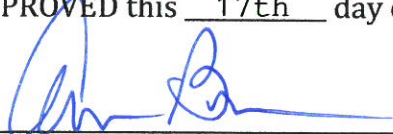
WHEREAS, the City of Hinesville endeavors to be a good steward of its natural and historical environment and resources; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Hinesville believes that more research should be done to fully understand and better address the impacts of seismic testing and the options for mitigating those impacts should be explored before exploration begins.

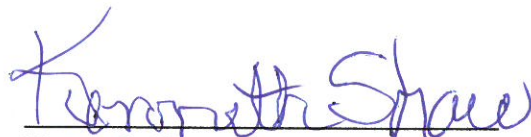
IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT:

The City Council of the City of Hinesville, representing the City of Hinesville, opposes the current BOEM proposal to allow seismic testing and offshore oil and gas development off the Georgia coast and that the seismic testing proposal should be postponed for five (5) years.

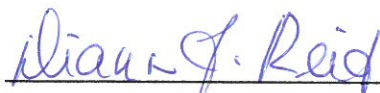
APPROVED this 17th day of March, 2016.



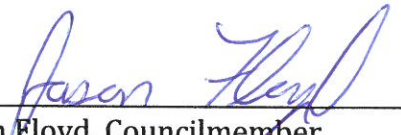
Allen Brown, Mayor



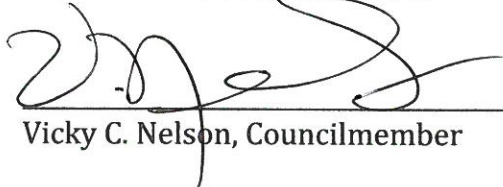
Kenneth Shaw, Mayor Pro Tem



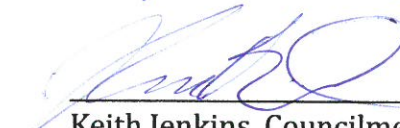
Diana F. Reid, Councilmember



Jason Floyd, Councilmember

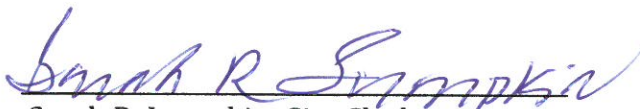


Vicky C. Nelson, Councilmember



Keith Jenkins, Councilmember

ATTEST:



Sarah R. Lumpkin, City Clerk