Resolution to Oppose Exploration for Oil & Gas and Seismic Surveying Off the Coast of North Carolina

Whereas, the Town of Pine Knoll Shores 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 surveying 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 Pine Knoll Shores and 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, and to explore the sounds, marshes, wetlands, estuaries, rivers, creeks and streams that abound in Pine Knoll Shores and 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, 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.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Board of Commissioners for the Town of Pine Knoll Shores is opposed to seismic surveying and the exploration and drilling for oil and natural gas off of the North Carolina coast.

Adopted, this the U^{pr} Day of October 2017.

Ken Jones

Mayor, Pine Knoll Shores

Attested by:

Sarah G. Williams Town Clerk, Pine Knoll Shores