

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

November 21, 2016

Dear President Obama,

Thank you for removing the Atlantic Ocean from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's 2017-2022 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program.

Seven cities and towns in Georgia, representing nearly 250,000 residents, have adopted resolutions/proclamations expressing opposition to offshore drilling and/or seismic airgun blasting. Municipalities include Savannah, Tybee Island, Brunswick, Hinesville, St. Marys, Kingsland and Porterdale. No fewer than 120 municipalities in East Coast states have formally opposed oil and gas development in the Atlantic, including Savannah, Georgia. Together, these municipalities represent 90% of the coastline that would be at direct risk from seismic airgun blasting, from Cape May, New Jersey to Cape Canaveral, Florida. Additionally, over 1,100 business interests and over 1,200 federal, state and local legislators have opposed oil and gas exploration or development in the Atlantic.

It is clear that Atlantic coastal communities, elected leaders, and other stakeholders do not want offshore oil and gas development, including offshore drilling and seismic airgun blasting. We will never support the destruction of our ocean, which supports our economies and way of life.

I am grateful that the Atlantic is no longer being considered for offshore drilling in the upcoming five-year program. However, our ocean is priceless and our coastal assets are far too valuable to ever put at risk of oil and gas development. I urge you to use your presidential authority to permanently protect the Atlantic Ocean and our communities from offshore drilling and seismic airgun blasting.

Sincerely,

Audrey Platt

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