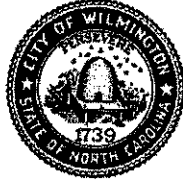


Resolution



Charly Lina
City Council
City of Wilmington
North Carolina

Introduced By: Sterling B. Cheatham, City Manager

Date: 6/16/2015

Resolution in Opposition to Seismic Testing and Offshore Drilling Activities off of the North Carolina Coast

LEGISLATIVE INTENT/PURPOSE:

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of the Interior has proposed the inclusion of the North Carolina coast in their proposed exploration and development of offshore oil and gas off of the Atlantic Coast. Such exploration and development would include such methods as seismic blasting; and

WHEREAS, seismic air-guns fire intense blasts of compressed air, said to be one of the loudest man made sounds in the ocean. These blasts can occur as frequently as every ten seconds, for days to weeks at a time and are loud enough to harm marine and aquatic life; and

WHEREAS, the full impacts of seismic testing and offshore drilling in the Atlantic are not yet fully understood by scientists, the oil and gas industry, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, or the Federal Government, and lower-impact alternative technologies may be available for exploration in the near future; and

WHEREAS, exploratory and commercial drilling, extraction, and the transportation of offshore oil and gas resources pose an possible economic and environmental risk; and

WHEREAS, offshore drilling activities pose specific threats for the coastal and river wetlands areas of Wilmington, which are of intrinsic ecological value for numerous migratory bird species, serve as essential nursery habitats for recreational and commercially important fisheries, and act as natural buffers from storm surge and hurricanes; and

WHEREAS, the appreciation of our natural coastal and historical environment, including commercial and recreational fishing are critical economic drivers and quality of life drivers for our region; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wilmington endeavors to be a good steward of it's coastal environment and its resources; and

WHEREAS, it has been requested by area residents and advocacy organization such as Oceana that the City of Wilmington lend it's voice to this critical issue facing our coast; and

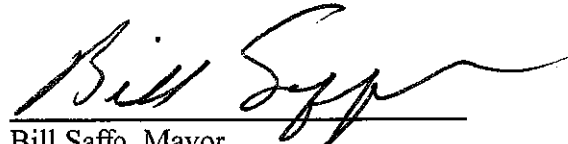
CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY
Penelope Spier Sidbury
CITY CLERK

WHEREAS, the City of Wilmington stands with numerous other coastal North Carolina municipalities in their pursuit of shoreline protection and preservation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT, the City Council of the City of Wilmington, North Carolina, is opposed to seismic testing and offshore oil and gas development off of the North Carolina coast.


Adopted at a regular meeting
on July 21, 2015


Bill Saffo, Mayor

ATTEST:


Penelope Spicer-Sidbury, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


City Attorney /MTE

