



## City of St. Augustine Beach

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Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Sent by email to: [ggeis@boem.gov](mailto:ggeis@boem.gov)

Subject: Opposing Seismic Airgun Surveys


To Whom It May Concern:

The City of St. Augustine Beach is a northeast Florida Coastal Community. Because the ocean and the beach are the mainstays of the City's tourist industry, the City pays particularly close attention to proposed actions that could have a detrimental effect on the ocean and beach.

Recently, the City became aware of the proposal by the oil and gas industry to map for oil and gas reserves off the Atlantic Coast, using seismic airgun testing. At its April 7, 2014 meeting, the City Commission by unanimous vote authorized me to send this letter, stating the City's opposition to the searching for reserves by seismic airgun surveying because of the potential detrimental effects on marine wildlife.

On behalf of the Commission and the citizens of St. Augustine Beach, I ask the Department of Interior not to issue permits to the oil and natural gas industry, but to require it to find ways to conduct the surveying that won't be harmful to marine wildlife.

Sincerely,



Andrea Samuels, Mayor

AS/pc

cc: Senator Bill Nelson  
Senator Marc Rubio  
Representative Ron DeSantis