

RESOLUTION NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ (CCS)

(City Council Series)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA REAFFIRMING THE PROTECTION OF THE  
OCEAN AND COAST FROM OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING, EXPLORATION AND  
HYDRAULIC FRACTURING (FRACKING)

WHEREAS, the health of Santa Monica Bay and the Pacific Ocean is directly tied to the City of Santa Monica's (the "City") economy, public health, and environment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Monica's residents and visitors enjoy City beaches and the Pacific Ocean for recreational, commercial, and educational activities, all of which support our local economy; and

WHEREAS, Santa Monica Bay and the State's coastal waters provide habitat to a vast array of wildlife, including fish, whales, sea turtles, and birds that depend on a healthy and clean environment; and

WHEREAS, the State and many local communities, including the City of Santa Monica, have supported and made significant investments to protect and enhance marine and coastal habitats in Santa Monica Bay, including the designation of Santa Monica Bay as a national estuary; establishing marine protected areas in Malibu, Palos Verdes and Catalina Island; restoring Malibu Lagoon; and restoring kelp forests in Santa Monica Bay; and

WHEREAS, offshore oil and gas drilling and seismic exploration off the Pacific Coast put coastal resources, and the communities and industries that depend on them, at risk from oil spills, intense ocean noise, and other damage; and

WHEREAS, the current administration has proposed to dramatically expand offshore oil and gas leasing in all United States oceans, including to new areas which have largely been off-limits to new federal leasing, including the Pacific Coast; and

WHEREAS, expanding offshore oil and gas drilling, seismic exploration, fracking and other well stimulation techniques threatens coastal stakeholders, marine wildlife, human health and climate; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, a massive oil spill off the coast of Santa Barbara fouled coastal waters and caused catastrophic economic and environmental damage; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, a pipeline servicing offshore oil platforms burst and fouled the same coastal areas, damaging wildlife and impacting recreational and commercial activities; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing and other unconventional oil extraction techniques such as acid fracturing, matrix acidizing, gravel packing and cyclic steam injection, collectively referred to here as “fracking and other well stimulation,” provide other means to expand offshore oil and gas extraction; and

WHEREAS, fracking and other well stimulation increases pollution and the risk of oil spills and earthquakes; and

WHEREAS, the offshore oil industry is permitted to dump more than 9 billion gallons of wastewater into the Pacific Ocean every year, including wastewater from fracking, that may be laced with toxic chemicals that can harm human health and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, expanding offshore drilling, fracking and other well stimulation off the Pacific Coast will deepen the state's dependence on fossil fuels and undermine efforts to address climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and moving toward renewable energy; and

WHEREAS, the Governors of California, Oregon, and Washington, along with over 30 California cities and counties, including the cities of Malibu, Manhattan Beach, West Hollywood and Los Angeles, have taken a stand against new federal offshore oil and gas leases in the Pacific Ocean, and several municipalities have called for a ban on offshore fracking; and

WHEREAS, on November 27, 2012, the City of Santa Monica adopted Resolution Number 10720, in support of a moratorium on fracking in California and incorporated the resolution into Santa Monica's Sustainability Bill of Rights; and

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2014, the City of Santa Monica adopted Resolution Number 10851, opposing oil drilling in Hermosa Beach which would impact Santa Monica Bay; and

WHEREAS, new federal offshore oil and gas leases have not been granted in the Pacific region planning area since 1984; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Interior develops and implements a nationwide offshore oil and gas leasing program that determines the size, timing and location of lease sales for the Outer Continental Shelf.

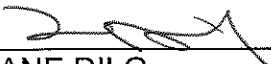
NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council of the City of Santa Monica supports a ban on new offshore oil and gas drilling, seismic oil exploration, fracking, and other well stimulation in federal and state waters off the Pacific Coast.

SECTION 2. The City Council opposes new federal oil and gas leasing in all United States waters, including off the Pacific Coast.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution, and thenceforth and thereafter the same shall be in full force and effect.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
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LANE DILG  
City Attorney