

RESOLUTION NO. 110-20

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF JUPITER, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO OFFSHORE DRILLING ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING SEISMIC AIRGUN BLASTING; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the United States government has expressed interest in opening the Atlantic Ocean and Eastern Gulf of Mexico to offshore oil and gas development and exploration, including risky methods such as seismic airgun blasting; and,

WHEREAS, seismic airguns fire intense blasts of compressed air, one of the loudest manmade sounds in the ocean, every 10-12 seconds for days, weeks, or months on end; and,

WHEREAS, seismic airgun noise has been shown to harm and injure dolphins, whales, endangered sea turtles, fish, and other marine life; and,

WHEREAS, exploratory and commercial drilling, extraction, and transportation of offshore oil and gas resources pose a significant risk of oil spills and chronic leakage; and,

WHEREAS, eventual offshore drilling may require significant onshore infrastructure, such as pipelines or refineries, which would harm the character of the coast; and,

WHEREAS, offshore drilling activities pose threats to treasured vacation destinations on Florida's Coasts, which are of intrinsic economic value for numerous industries, provide essential nursery habitats for recreational and commercially important fisheries, and act as natural buffers from storm surge and hurricanes; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Jupiter is a worldwide destination and recognizes that the tourism and fishing industries, which depend on a healthy and vibrant coastal environment, both serve as major economic drivers benefiting the current and future residents, property owners, and visitors to Florida; and,

WHEREAS, offshore drilling activities pose dangers to Jupiter's treasured and distinctive coastal environment including, the Wild and Scenic Loxahatchee River estuary;

unique seasonal shark aggregation; proximity to special whale migratory patterns; and the largest turtle nesting population on the Atlantic coast.

WHEREAS, the Town of Jupiter endeavors to be a good steward of the state and region's environment and its resources; and,

WHEREAS, exploration and development of oil and gas resources off the coast of Florida will not effectively address the long-term energy needs of our country; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Jupiter recommends that it would be more economically and ecologically responsible to pursue non-polluting sources of renewable energy such as solar and wind, that pose less risk to the coastal environment and economic health before using uncertain methods of seismic airgun blasting for offshore oil and gas deposits.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF JUPITER, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The Town of Jupiter recognizes Offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration, including seismic airgun blasting, will put Florida's environment, beaches, marine resources and local economies at risk; therefore, the Council expresses its opposition to these activities and urges the federal government not to pursue such practices off Florida's coast.

Section 2. The Town Council authorizes the Town Manager to take all actions necessary to effectuate the purpose of this Resolution.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its execution.


The foregoing Resolution was offered this 17th day of November, 2020 by Councilor Ron Delaney who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Ilan Kaufer and upon being put to a roll call vote, the vote was as follows:

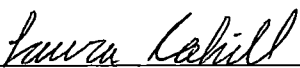
	AYE	NAY
MAYOR TODD R. WODRASKA	X	
VICE-MAYOR ILAN KAUFER	X	
COUNCILOR RON DELANEY	X	
COUNCILOR JIM KURETSKI	X	
COUNCILOR CAMERON MAY	X	


The Mayor thereupon executed Resolution 110-20 on this 12/1/20 day of _____, 2020.

TOWN OF JUPITER, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

BY: 
TODD R. WODRASKA
MAYOR


LAURA E. CAHILL
INTERIM TOWN CLERK


THOMAS J. BAIRD, ESQ.
Approved as to form and
legal sufficiency

(TOWN SEAL)

