



# New Jersey's Clean Coast Economy

**T**he Jersey Shore's long stretch of white sand beaches attracts millions of visitors and contributes billions of dollars to the economy each year. Abundant ocean resources and clean salty waters define coastal communities from Sandy Hook to Cape May, and many locals depend on the vibrant New Jersey coast for a consistent source of income. Along New Jersey's Atlantic coast are a variety of quiet fishing villages, renowned surf spots, popular boardwalks and seaside amusement parks. The seafood industry also plays an important role in the region's economy, with several major commercial fishing ports that bring in large catches of surf clams, sea scallops, ocean quahog, black seabass and flounder.

## What's at Risk?

New offshore drilling and exploration proposals pose a direct threat to coastal tourism and other local businesses that depend on a healthy and clean marine environment.

## FISHING, TOURISM & RECREATION

*along New Jersey's coast:*

SUPPORT

**125,702  
JOBS**

GENERATE

**\$6.9 BILLION  
IN GDP**

*Offshore drilling threatens*

**NEARLY 126,000 JOBS**

*and roughly*

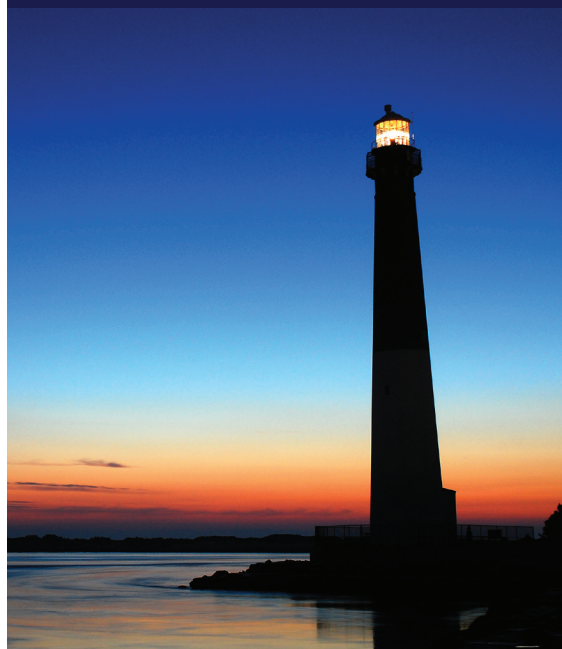
**\$6.9 BILLION IN GDP**

*in New Jersey for only*

**6 DAYS'-WORTH OF OIL**

*and*

**5 DAYS'-WORTH OF GAS**



## A Bad Deal for New Jersey

*Risking New Jersey's clean coast economy for very little offshore oil and gas would be a shortsighted and permanent mistake.*

At current national consumption rates, the Atlantic's supply of undiscovered economically recoverable offshore oil and gas would only meet domestic oil demand for less than seven months and gas demand for less than six months. Off the coast of New Jersey alone, the economically recoverable oil and gas resources would only meet demand for roughly six days and five days respectively.

The risk of another catastrophe like the BP *Deepwater Horizon* oil disaster is too great to endanger New Jersey's healthy ocean resources and thriving coastal economies. The blowout resulted in more than 200 million gallons of oil spewing into the Gulf of Mexico, with far reaching consequences that are still being discovered, including enormous economic losses, human health impacts, and disturbing effects on marine ecosystems. Impacts to fisheries could total \$8.7 billion by 2020, and roughly 10 million user-days of beach, fishing and boating activity were lost.

Oil spills do not recognize state boundaries; spreading slicks could hinder tourism, recreation and fishing economies all along the East Coast. Finally, the likely industrialization that goes hand-in-hand with offshore oil and gas development would dramatically alter the character of New Jersey's coast. The addition of large scale oil refineries, and the associated pipelines required to pump oil, would irreversibly transform peaceful beach spots into oil towns scattered with drilling infrastructure.

Offshore drilling for oil and gas is a dirty and dangerous venture that would threaten New Jersey's abundant ocean resources, which bring in consistent revenue year after year. Oil and gas are finite resources; when the oil runs out, so do the jobs.

Off New Jersey's coast, the economically recoverable

# OIL & GAS

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# 6 DAYS

and

# 5 DAYS

respectively.



# IT'S NOT WORTH IT.

### TAKE ACTION

## Oppose Offshore Drilling and Seismic Airgun Blasting

Seismic airgun blasting is an extremely loud and harmful technology used to explore for oil and gas deep below the ocean floor. Seismic airgun blasting is the first step towards offshore drilling, and as history has taught us — when we drill, we spill. Seismic airgun blasts put marine life and coastal communities who rely on healthy oceans at risk, in addition to all the dangerous consequences of offshore drilling. Help protect the health of our oceans by stopping the expansion of offshore drilling and seismic airgun blasting.

The time to act is now. We must protect our coast, living ocean resources and local economies from the threat of new offshore drilling and exploration.

For sources and methodology, please visit:  
[Oceana.org/CleanCoastEconomy](http://Oceana.org/CleanCoastEconomy)

**#ProtectOurCoast**