

71-18

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on January 8, 2018, the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management announced in the Federal Register notice the release of their Draft Proposed Program for the 2019-2024 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program; and

WHEREAS, this new draft proposed oil and gas leasing plan represents a historic threat to the entire Atlantic Ocean from Maine to Florida, including the waters off New Jersey as close as 3 miles from ocean beaches; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Brick joins the strong opposition to offshore oil and gas development due to the high likelihood for substantial environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey boasts over 127 miles of beautiful ocean coastline, several miles of which are located in Brick Township which is also home to back-bays, rivers, estuaries, lagoons and other coastal waterways; and

WHEREAS, the Jersey Shore, which is essential to the health of our communities, environment and the thriving economy of New Jersey, provides \$32 billion and more than 500,000 jobs to NJ's economy each year; and

WHEREAS, recreational and commercial fisheries in NJ provide enormous economic benefits, including revenue, food production, and recreational activities supporting nearly 30,000 jobs and resulted in \$2 billion of retail sales; and

WHEREAS, the physical, hydrodynamic, and biological characteristics of the ocean off the Jersey Shore are unique in the world, home to more than 300 species of fish, nearly 350 species of birds, 5 species of sea turtles, 20 species of whales and dolphins, 1 species of porpoise, and 4 species of seals. Nine endangered species, four of which are whales, can be found in these ocean waters, including the Atlantic Right Whale, one of the world's most endangered marine mammals; and

WHEREAS, coastal municipalities like Brick Township have a profound interest in maintaining strong federal protections for our nation's coastal environment, as well as the economic and social benefits it supports.

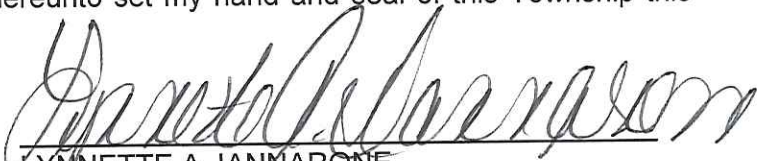
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRICK, COUNTY OF OCEAN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, as follows:

1. We join the nearly unanimous, bi-partisan opposition to this dangerous and negligent proposal.
2. We urge all residents to help protect and preserve the Jersey Shore and the entire Atlantic coast by voicing their opposition to the appropriate federal agencies.

CERTIFICATION

I, Lynnette A. Iannarone, Clerk of the Township of Brick, County of Ocean and State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Council of the Township of Brick at a meeting of said Township Council on January 30, 2018.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of this Township this 30th day of January, 2018.


 LYNNETTE A. IANNARONE
 TOWNSHIP CLERK

Agenda #	Date
4-13	1/30/18
Agenda #	Date
Agenda #	Date
Agenda #	Date