CITY OF APALACHICOLA
RESOLUTION 2017-16

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF APALACHICOLA,
FLORIDA TO EXPRESS THE CITY COMMISSION'S OPPOSITION TO OFFSHORE
DRILLING ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING SEISMIC AIRGUN BLASTING

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 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, 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 City of Apalachicola 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, the City of Apalachicola 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 City of Apalachicola 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 City Commission of the City of Apalachicola that:

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.

Adopted by the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola, on the 7th day of November, 2017.

FOR THE CITY COMMISION OF THE CITY OF APALACHICOLA

[Signature]

VAN W. JOHNSON, SR., MAYOR

ATTEST:

[Signature]

LEE H. MATHES, CITY ADMINISTRATOR