NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Chosen Freeholders of Cape May County urge Governor Christie to oppose the seismic air gun blasting off the coast of New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER, RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be served upon President Barack Obama, Governor Chris Christie, Cape May County Legislative Delegation and all Cape May County Mayors.

STATEMENT

This Resolution opposes the use of seismic air-gun testing off the coast of New Jersey.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY ) ss:
COUNTY OF CAPE MAY )

I, Elizabeth Bozzelli, Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Cape May, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct and true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at a meeting duly held on the ___________ day of

August 2016.

Signed, ____________________________
Clerk of the Board
RESOLUTION OPPOSING SEISMIC AIR-GUN TESTING OFF THE COAST OF NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the proposed seismic air gun blasting is utilized to search for oil and gas reserves deep beneath the sea floor; and

WHEREAS, such blasting is proposed for the East Coast; and

WHEREAS, the seismic air use extremely loud blasts of air, 100,000 times more intense than a jet engine and repeated every 10 seconds, 24 hours a day for days to months on end; and

WHEREAS, the blasting can cause permanent hearing loss, injury and even death to whales, dolphins and larval fish when used at shore distances; and

WHEREAS, the air gun noise has been shown to decrease the catch rates within certain fisheries; and

WHEREAS, the commercial and recreation fishing in New Jersey supports over 63,000 jobs, all of which would be threatened by seismic blasting and the offshore drilling that would follow; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean-based tourism and recreation generates nearly 3.1 billion in GDP (Gross Domestic Profit) for the State and sustains over 79,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, the Obama Administration could decide in the next weeks to allow companies to use seismic air guns to search for oil and gas deposits in the Atlantic Ocean within the next few weeks.