



TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF KURE BEACH, NC

RESOLUTION R16-01

**TO EXPRESS KURE BEACH TOWN COUNCIL'S OPPOSITION
TO SEISMIC TESTING AND OFFSHORE DRILLING ACTIVITIES**

WHEREAS, the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is currently in the process of trying to open the mid-Atlantic Ocean to exploration and development of offshore oil and gas, including risky methods such as seismic blasting; and

WHEREAS, seismic air-guns fire intense blasts of compressed air that can occur as frequently as every 10 seconds, for days to weeks at a time, and can be loud enough to harm marine life; and

WHEREAS, the full impacts of seismic testing and offshore drilling in the Atlantic Ocean are not yet fully understood by scientists, the oil and gas industry, BOEM, nor the Federal Government; and Town of Kure Beach believes that more research should be done to fully understand and better address the impacts of seismic testing and options for mitigating those impacts before exploration begins, including incorporation of the National Marine Fisheries Service's soon-to-be-released acoustic guidance document; and

WHEREAS, exploratory and commercial drilling, extraction, and transportation of offshore oil and gas resources pose a significant risk of a spill, therefore, posing threats to tourist and seafood industries, the economy, the environment and our quality of life in Kure Beach and other Atlantic Coastal communities; and

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

WHEREAS, the exploration and development of oil and natural gas off the mid-Atlantic coast will not effectively nor fully address the long-term energy needs of our country; and

WHEREAS, the Town feels that it would be more economically and ecologically responsible to pursue non-polluting sources of renewable energy through solar, wind, and biomass energy production projects that pose less risk to our coastal environment, economic health and quality of life before using uncertain methods of seismic blasting for offshore oil and gas exploration; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Kure Beach endeavors to be a good steward of its coastal environment and its resources;

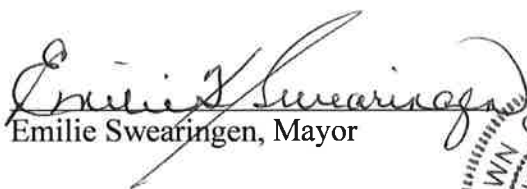


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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Kure Beach Town Council that the town is opposed to seismic testing and offshore oil and gas development off of the North Carolina coast.

Adopted by the Kure Beach Town Council this 19th day of January, 2016.


Emilie Swearingen, Mayor




Attest: Nancy Avery, Town Clerk