BOROUGH OF WEST WILDWOOD COUNTY OF CAPE MAY NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION 2016-081

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING SEISMIC AIR-GUN TESTING OFF THE COAST OF NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the proposed seismic air gun blasting 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; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of West Wildwood Mayor and Commissioners urge Governor Christie to oppose the seismic air gun blasting off the coast of New Jersey.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of West Wildwood, County of Cape May, New Jersey, affirms its opposition to seismic testing off the New Jersey Coastline.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Chris Christie, Senator Robert Menendez, Senator Cory Booker, Congressman Frank LoBiondo, Senator Jeff Van Drew, Assemblyman Robert Andreczjczak, Assemblyman Samuel Fiocchi, County Board of Chosen Freeholders, all Cape May County Municipalities.

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mayor Christopher J. Fox			Х			
Commissioner Scott W. Golden		Х	Х			
Commissioner Cornelius J. Maxwell	X		Х			

I, Donna L. Frederick, RMC, Municipal Clerk for the Borough of West Wildwood in the County of Cape May and State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct and true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of West Wildwood, New Jersey at a Regular Meeting held on August 5, 2016.

Donna L. Frederick, RMC Municipal Clerk

BOROUGH OF WEST WILDWOOD COUNTY OF CAPE MAY NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION 2016-082

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING OFFSHORE DRILLING

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Interior has included the Atlantic Ocean in its Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Leasing Draft Proposed Program for 2017-2022; and

WHEREAS, this proposed draft allows for oil and gas exploration in a portion of the Mid- and South Atlantic planning areas offshore Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia; and

WHEREAS, due to the current flow and natural movement of ocean waters, an oil spill in the Atlantic Ocean would not occur in isolation and would cause catastrophic damage to a fragile and priceless ecosystem; 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, Cape May County is located at the most southern tip of New Jersey and whose economy is driven by beach tourism and aquaculture both of which would be devastated in the event of a drilling disaster; and

WHEREAS, the BP, Deepwater Horizon incident which occurred in the Gulf Region of the United States resulted in catastrophic environmental and economic impacts to that area; and

WHEREAS, offshore drilling poses a substantial risk of economic and environmental devastation to all shoreline communities,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of West Wildwood, County of Cape May, New Jersey, opposes any plan by the United States Department of Interior to allow offshore drilling in the Atlantic Ocean, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Chris Christie, Senator Robert Menendez, Senator Cory Booker, Congressman Frank LoBiondo, Senator Jeff Van Drew, Assemblyman Robert Andreczjczak, Assemblyman Samuel Fiocchi, County Board of Chosen Freeholders, all Cape May County Municipalities.

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mayor Christopher J. Fox			Х			
Commissioner Scott W. Golden		Х	Х			
Commissioner Cornelius J. Maxwell	X		Х			

I, Donna L. Frederick, RMC, Municipal Clerk for the Borough of West Wildwood in the County of Cape May and State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct and true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of West Wildwood, New Jersey at a Regular Meeting held on August 5, 2016.

Donna L. Frederick, RMC Municipal Clerk