RESOLUTION NO. 2017-034

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WILTON MANORS, FLORIDA, EXPRESSSES ITS OPPOSITION TO OFFSHORE DRILLING ACTIVITIES INCLUDING SEISMIC AIRGUN BLASTING; DIRECTING CITY ADMINISTRATION TO TRANSMIT A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE BROWARD LEAGUE OF CITIES, THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, THE BROWARD COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION, THE UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION FROM FLORIDA, THE PALM BEACH COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, THE MIAMI DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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 of 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, eventual offshore drilling may require significant onshore infrastructure, such as pipelines or refineries, which would harm the character of the coast; 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 Commission of the City of Wilton Manors 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 Wilton Manors 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, 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 City Commission of the City of Wilton Manors expresses its opposition to these activities and urges the federal government not to pursue such practices off Florida’s coast; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Wilton Manors 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 WILTON MANORS, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. The foregoing "WHEREAS" clauses are hereby ratified and
confirmed as being true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. 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 City Commission of the City of Wilton Manors
expresses its opposition to these activities and urges the federal government not to pursue
such practices off Florida’s coast.

Section 3. The City Commission further directs City Administration to
transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Broward League of Cities, the Florida
League of Cities, the Broward County Legislative Delegation, the United States
Congressional Delegation from Florida, the Palm Beach County League of Cities, the
Miami Dade County League of Cities and any other interested parties.

Section 4. All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith, be
and the same are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 5. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is held
to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding
shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution.

Section 6. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its
passage and adoption.
PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
WILTON MANORS, FLORIDA, THIS 14th DAY OF MARCH, 2017.

CITY OF WILTON MANORS, FLORIDA

By: GARY RESNICK, MAYOR

ATTEST:

KATHRYN SIMS, CMO
CITY CLERK

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have
approved the form of this Resolution.

KERRY L. EZROL, ESQ.
CITY ATTORNEY

RECORD OF COMMISSION VOTE

MAYOR RESNICK
VICE MAYOR FLIPPEN
COMMISSIONER CARSON
COMMISSIONER GREEN
COMMISSIONER NEWTON