

RESOLUTION NO. 18-035

PROTECTING OUR COAST FROM OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS DRILLING AND EXPLORATION

FINDINGS

WHEREAS, the City of Pacific Grove and its visitors enjoy California's beaches and the Pacific Ocean for recreational, commercial, and educational activities, all of which support our local economy; and,

WHEREAS, our City's residents value our state's ocean and coastal waters, which provide habitat to a vast array of wildlife, including fish, whales, sea turtles, and birds that depend on a healthy and clean environment; and,

WHEREAS, offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration off the Pacific coast puts these coastal resources, and the communities and industries that depend on them, at risk from oil spills and other damage; and,

WHEREAS, expanding offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration threatens coastal stakeholders, marine wildlife, human health and climate; and,

WHEREAS, a massive oil spill in 1969 off the coast of Santa Barbara fouled coastal waters and caused catastrophic economic and environmental damage; and,

WHEREAS, in 2015 a pipeline servicing offshore oil platforms burst and fouled the same coastal areas, damaging wildlife and impacting recreational and commercial activities; and,

WHEREAS, the Administration is considering expanding offshore oil and gas leasing to areas which have largely been off-limits to new federal leasing, including the Pacific Coast; and

WHEREAS, new federal offshore oil and gas leases have not been granted off the coast of California since 1984; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Interior's 2017-2022 Five-Year Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Leasing Program adopted as of November 18, 2016 contained no proposed offshore drilling along the Pacific Coast, and;

WHEREAS, the Interior Department's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is considering an expanded Five-Year National OCS Leasing Program for the years 2019-2024 in response to which this resolution is hereby submitted, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Pacific Grove is opposed to inclusion of any offshore drilling tracts in any OCS Planning Area on the Pacific Coast in the pending 2019-2024 leasing program and any other future National Programs, and;

WHEREAS, the state of California prohibited new oil and gas leasing in state waters due to the unacceptably high risk of damage and disruption to the marine environment; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor of California, the California Attorney General, the majority of California's Members of Congress, the California State Senate, the California State Lands Commission, the California Ocean Protection Council, and the California Fish and Game Commission, along with several cities, have taken a stand against new federal offshore oil and gas leases in the Pacific Ocean; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE:

1. The foregoing Findings are adopted as findings of the City Council as though set forth fully herein.
2. The City of Pacific Grove supports a ban on new oil and gas activities in federal and state waters off the California coast
3. The City of Pacific Grove opposes new federal oil and gas leasing in all waters off the coast of California.
4. The City Clerk shall forward a copy of this Resolution to Secretary Zinke, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Acting Director Walter Cruickshank. Governor Brown; U. S. Senators Feinstein and Harris; U.S. Representative Jimmy Panetta, State Senator Bill Monning, and State Representative Mark Stone.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE this 17th day of October, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Kampe, Councilmembers Cuneo, Garfield, Fischer, Huitt, and Peake.
NOES: None.
ABSENT: Councilmember Smith.

APPROVED:



BILL KAMPE, Mayor

ATTEST:



SANDRA KANDELL, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



DAVID C. LAREDO, City Attorney