

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

and for Special Districts, Agencies and Authorities Governed by the Board

Adopted this Resolution on 01/23/2018 by the following vote:

		John Gioia
		Candace Andersen
AYE:	<input type="text" value="5"/>	Diane Burgis
		Karen Mitchoff
		Federal D. Glover
NO:	<input type="text" value="/"/>	
ABSENT:	<input type="text" value="/"/>	
ABSTAIN:	<input type="text" value="/"/>	
RECUSE:	<input type="text" value="/"/>	



Resolution No. 2018/28

Opposing New Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling off the California Coast

WHEREAS on January 4, 2018, the Trump Administration proposed to open for exploration the largest expanse of the nation's offshore oil and natural gas reserves ever offered to global energy companies, including waters off the coast of California; and

WHEREAS Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke said the draft five-year leasing plan would commit 90% of the nation's offshore reserves to leasing, including areas off all three regions of the California coast that have been off-limits to oil and gas exploration since the Reagan administration; and

WHEREAS The plan released on January 4, 2018 calls for selling 47 new oil and gas leases between 2019 and 2024 in the Arctic, Atlantic and Pacific oceans as well as in the Gulf of Mexico — the most that have ever been proposed in a five-year program. The effort replaces the Obama administration's plan to offer 11 new leases through 2022, 10 in the Gulf of Mexico and one off the coast of Alaska; and

WHEREAS The proposed plan for the outer continental shelf calls for 47 lease sales to be scheduled in 25 of 26 areas off the nation's coastlines between 2019 and 2024; and

WHEREAS The Proposed Plan requires a process of environmental review and public comment before any new drilling can begin; and

WHEREAS There are presently 23 oil platforms located in federal waters off California and four in state waters — near Santa Barbara County, Huntington Beach and Seal Beach. There are also four artificial islands used as drilling platforms off Long Beach and one off Rincon Beach in Ventura County; and

WHEREAS In 1994, the Legislature placed the entire California coast off-limits to new leases; and

WHEREAS The proposed federal plan suggests seven new leases in the Pacific region, including two each for Northern, Central and Southern California, as well as one for the area off the Washington and Oregon coast. Twelve leases are nominated for the Gulf of Mexico, and 19 for coastal Alaska; and

WHEREAS expanding offshore oil production would most likely require the construction of expensive new platforms and onshore support equipment whose presence could harm the state's multibillion-dollar coastal economy, including tourism, fishing and the marine ecosystem; and

WHEREAS Coastal states, especially California, Alaska and Florida, are especially sensitive to proposals to open the offshore seabed to oil and gas exploration because of oil spill risks that are escalating.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County opposes new offshore drilling development and objects to any new oil and gas leases off the California coast.

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: January 23, 2018

Contact: L. DeLaney. 925-335-1097

David J. Twa, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By:  Deputy