

**CITY OF BRADENTON BEACH, FLORIDA
RESOLUTION NO. 19-910**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BRADENTON BEACH, FLORIDA, OPPOSING OFFSHORE DRILLING ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING SEISMIC AIRGUN BLASTING PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BRADENTON BEACH, FLORIDA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 2 of the Florida Constitution provides that municipalities shall have governmental, corporate, proprietary powers to enable municipalities to conduct municipal government; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 166, Florida Statutes, the “Municipal Home Rule Powers Act,” implements the applicable provisions of the Florida Constitution and authorizes municipalities to exercise any power for municipal purposes, except when expressly prohibited by law, and to adopt resolutions in furtherance thereof; and

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 of Bradenton Beach (the "City") 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 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, the City 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; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of this Resolution is for a proper municipal purpose.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION, as follows:

Section 1. Findings of Fact. The WHEREAS clauses set forth above are adopted herein as findings of fact.

Section 2. Determination. The City Commission of the City of Bradenton Beach finds that offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration, including seismic airgun blasting, will put Florida's environment, beaches, marine resources and local economies at risk.

Section 3. Opposition to Offshore Drilling. The City Commission of the City of Bradenton Beach opposes offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration, including seismic airgun blasting.

Section 4. Repeal of Ordinances and Resolutions. Any ordinance or resolution in conflict herewith, to the extent of such conflict, is hereby repealed.

Section 5. Severability. In the event, any Section, Paragraph, Sub-Paragraph, Sentence, Clause, Phrase or Word of this Ordinance shall be called invalid, illegal or unenforceable by a Court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not effect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption or as provided by law.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED with a quorum present and voting this 11th day of July, 2019.

CITY OF BRADENTON BEACH, FLORIDA, BY AND THROUGH THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BRADENTON BEACH.

BY: _____

John Chappie, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

City Clerk, Terri Sanclemente