

RESOLUTION

**OPPOSING OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS DRILLING AND EXPLORATION,
INCLUDING SEISMIC TESTING**

WHEREAS, on January 4, 2018, the Secretary of the Interior announced a draft proposal to lease areas off the Atlantic coast, from the Delaware Bay to Cape Canaveral, for seismic testing, oil and gas exploratory testing and drilling; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 a similar proposal was scheduled to proceed but was cancelled after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico starkly demonstrated the serious risks of offshore drilling; and

WHEREAS, Governor Ralph S. Northam has announced Virginia's opposition to the offshore drilling proposal, and has requested that areas off the coast of Virginia be exempted; and

WHEREAS, federal, state and local governments and other community groups have spent billions of dollars in funding and other resources in an effort to improve and maintain the condition of regional waterways, including the Chesapeake Bay; and

WHEREAS, the tourism and commercial fishing and aquaculture industries are vital to the economies of the Town of Onley, Accomack County, and the Hampton Roads Region, and could be devastated by an offshore energy exploration catastrophe; and

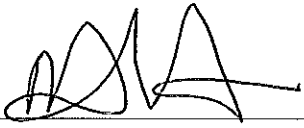
WHEREAS, a healthy tourism industry and economy are necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the speculative benefit of oil and gas drilling is not worth the risk of a Deepwater Horizon-type incident that could cripple the regional environment and economy for decades;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Onley, Virginia

1. That the Council opposes offshore oil and gas exploration and drilling, including seismic testing.
2. That this resolution shall be in effect from and after its adoption.

Adopted by the Town Council of Onley on June 3, 2019.

By: 
Matthew Hart, Mayor

Attest:

Melissa Taylor
Melissa Taylor, Town Clerk

Council voting:

- Woody Zember yes
- Susan Rillo yes
- Claudia Harmon yes
- Rose Pierson yes
- Billye D. Custis yes
- Ned Finney yes