

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OXNARD

RESOLUTION NO. 15,198

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OXNARD SUPPORTING A BAN ON NEW OFFSHORE DRILLING, FRACKING, AND RELATED TECHNIQUES IN STATE AND FEDERAL WATERS IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN ALONG THE UNITED STATES; AND SUPPORTING A FRAMEWORK TO DEVELOP NEW RESPONSIBLE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

WHEREAS, the City of Oxnard values our state's ocean waters and coasts, which provide habitat to a vast array of wildlife that depend on a healthy and clean environment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oxnard's residents and visitors enjoy our ocean, beaches, and abundance of diverse resources for recreation, exploration, and relaxation; and tourism and recreation comprise a large part of the City's economy; and

WHEREAS, oil drilling presents a clear and ever-present danger to the health and safety of residents, businesses and economies, with the threat of an oil spill potentially wreaking havoc on ecosystems, on human health, and economic activities; and

WHEREAS, fracking and related techniques, where water and chemicals are injected under high pressure to crack rock formations and free up petroleum products, are linked to water and air pollution, health concerns, and harm to marine wildlife; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, a well failure off the coast of Santa Barbara fouled coastal waters and caused catastrophic environmental damage, helping launch the modern environmental movement, and in 2015 a pipeline servicing offshore oil platforms burst and fouled the coast, damaging wildlife and coastal recreation; and

WHEREAS, on April 28, 2017, President Trump issued Executive Order 13795 titled "Implementing an America-First Offshore Energy Strategy" which could open the Pacific, Atlantic and Arctic oceans to oil and gas drilling, fracking, and other well stimulation, putting California's coastal resources at risk of more oil spills, increased greenhouse gas emissions, dependence on fossil fuels, and a delay in the movement toward greater reliance on renewable energy; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of California, the State Senate, the State Lands Commission and cities, including Los Angeles and San Francisco, have called for no new federal offshore leases in the Pacific Ocean, and several public agencies have called for limits to fracking including Marin County, Alameda County, Santa Cruz County, San Benito County, and Butte County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oxnard's 2019 Legislative Program has made energy and environment sustainability a legislative priority, including opposing legislation that promotes or expands off shore coastal drilling compromising the environmental integrity of the ocean

and coastal communities, and supporting legislation that assists with the cleanup of contaminated soil and polluted water including underground fuel tanks, surfaces water, groundwater, and coastal areas, and that requires the disclosure of chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing and well stimulation treatments; and

WHEREAS, the Oxnard City Council's Strategic Priorities include an Infrastructure and Natural Resources Strategy, one goal of which is to ensure orderly development and long-range conservation and management of our natural resources and coastal assets with the objective of protecting the ocean and waterways.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Oxnard resolves that the City of Oxnard hereby supports in state and federal waters in the Pacific Ocean along the United States, 1) a ban on new offshore drilling, fracking, and related techniques; and 2) a framework to develop new responsible renewable energy projects.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Basua, Flynn, Lopez, MacDonald, Madrigal, and Ramirez.

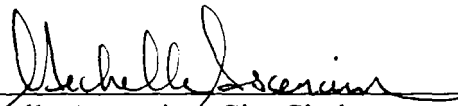
NOES: Councilmember Perello.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

  
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Tim Flynn, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Ascencion, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
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Stephen M. Fischer, City Attorney