TOWN OF SEABROOK ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-30

ADOPTED 6/10/2025

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE INCLUSION OF NEW OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS LEASING OFF THE COAST OF SOUTH CAROLINA IN THE 11TH NATIONAL OUTER SHELF OIL AND GAS LEASING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the economy of the Town of Seabrook Island depends heavily on a healthy coastal and marine environment, supporting industries such as tourism, recreation, commercial and recreational fishing, and related small businesses; and

WHEREAS, clean water, thriving ecosystems, and an attractive coastal environment are vital to maintaining property values, sustaining local businesses, and ensuring the quality of life for residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, offshore oil and gas exploration, development, and drilling carry inherent risks, including oil spills, leaks, habitat destruction, and pollution, which could cause significant, long-term harm to our coastal economy, natural resources, and way of life; and

WHEREAS, even the perception of environmental risk associated with offshore drilling can negatively impact tourism, investment, and business development in coastal areas; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Seabrook Island has previously, in 2015 and 2018, opposed federal efforts to permit oil and gas exploration and drilling off our coast; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is developing the 11th National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program and has requested public input on the size, timing, and location of lease sales and information relevant to program analysis; and

WHEREAS, the protection of our coastal environment and economy is a priority for the Town of Seabrook Island, and the long-term well-being of our community outweighs the short-term benefits that expanded offshore drilling might offer to the oil and gas industry;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council for the Town of Seabrook Island, that:

1. The Town of Seabrook Island formally opposes the inclusion of any exploration like seismic blasting and new offshore oil and gas leasing off the coast of South Carolina in the 11th National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program.

- 2. The Town of Seabrook Island urges the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to prioritize the protection of coastal economies, communities, and ecosystems by excluding exploration and new offshore oil and gas leases from the final leasing program.
- 3. The Town of Seabrook Island calls on our federal representatives in Congress to oppose efforts to expand offshore drilling and to support policies that protect our oceans, coasts, and the industries and communities that depend on them.
- 4. A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Senators Lindsey Graham and Tim Scott, Representative Nancy Mace, and any other relevant officials.

SIGNED AND SEALED this 10 day of	JUNE 2025, having been du	ly
adopted by the Town Council for the Town of Seabroo	ok Island on the 10 th day of June, 2025.	

Signed:

Bruce Kleinman, Mayor

Witness:

Peter D. Wiggins II, Town Clerk