



 **OCEANA**

Permanent Protections from Offshore Drilling Benefit South Carolina's Economy & Help Fight Climate Change

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SOUTH CAROLINA HAS
2,876 MILES
OF COASTLINE

WITH A CLEAN COAST ECONOMY
THAT SUPPORTS AROUND

97,000
AMERICAN JOBS

AND

\$6.7 BILLION
in gross domestic product

THROUGH ACTIVITIES LIKE



TOURISM



RECREATION



FISHING

which are threatened by offshore drilling

Off South Carolina's coast, the economically **recoverable oil and gas** resources would only **meet demand** for roughly

6 DAYS OF OIL
AND
5 DAYS OF GAS

South Carolinians Need a Clean Coast

South Carolina's white, sandy beaches and picture-perfect coastal towns are crucial drivers of the entire state's economy. For example, the towns of Charleston, Myrtle Beach, and Hilton Head each attract millions of visitors annually. Healthy ocean resources define the very way of life for communities throughout South Carolina, and the prosperity of these coastal towns is inextricably tied to clean shores and bountiful, salty waters.

South Carolina's long stretch of Atlantic waterfront and coastal wetlands provide a unique environment for everything from nesting sea turtles and seabirds to scuttling crabs and playful dolphins. Fresh-caught seafood is a staple along the coast, and the local commercial fishing industry contributes greatly to the state's coastal economy, boasting large catches of shrimp, blue crab, oysters, snapper, and swordfish.

What's at Risk?

Offshore drilling threatens coastal businesses and economies that depend on a clean and healthy ocean. We can fight the climate crisis and safeguard our coastal economy by advancing clean energy and permanently protecting our coasts from offshore drilling.

A Bad Deal for South Carolina

A catastrophic oil spill, like the 1969 Santa Barbara blowout or the 2010 BP *Deepwater Horizon* disaster, would pose a great risk to South Carolina's coastal economies that depend on a healthy ocean. When toxic oil is spilled, it poisons marine wildlife, causes beach closures, and disrupts lucrative fishing areas. Permanently protecting South Carolina's coast from offshore drilling will safeguard its coastal economies from the next oil disaster.

Offshore drilling for oil and gas is dirty and dangerous and threatens South Carolina's fishing, tourism, and recreation industries, which depend on a healthy ocean and provide consistent revenue year after year when sustainably managed. Oil and gas are finite resources; when the oil runs out, so do the jobs.

Protecting South Carolina's Coast from Offshore Drilling Helps Combat the Climate Crisis

The climate disaster is already wreaking havoc across the United States and here in South Carolina. As a result of increasingly intense and extreme weather, dangerous storm surges push farther inland, expanding their deadly and costly impact. Sea levels are rising and destructive flooding is becoming more frequent and severe. Increased flooding and saltwater intrusion stress coastal wildlife and threaten critical infrastructure, including roads and drinking water supplies.

PERMANENTLY PROTECTING

all federal waters from offshore drilling can prevent **more than**

19 BILLION
TONS of greenhouse gas emissions



EQUIVALENT TO

taking every car in the nation off the road for



15 YEARS

Protecting our coast from new oil development can prevent over

\$720 BILLION
IN DAMAGES TO



PEOPLE



PROPERTY



ENVIRONMENT

THIS WOULD BE LIKE

losing the **entire economy** of a major city, like **Washington, D.C.**, **Boston**, or **Atlanta**, for a year

**Our ocean
can be a
major part
of the clean
energy
solution.**

**RESPONSIBLY SITED
OFFSHORE WIND**

has the potential to generate
MORE ELECTRICITY
than our nation currently demands



Learn More:

We must permanently protect South Carolina's coast from the threat of offshore drilling.

For sources and methodology, please visit:
oceana.org/jobsanddollars

#ProtectOurCoast

