

RESOLUTION 2018-15

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ENCINITAS CALLING ON THE FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION TO PROTECT OUR COAST BY BANNING NEW OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS DRILLING, FRACKING AND OTHER WELL STIMULATION IN FEDERAL AND STATE WATERS OFF THE CALIFORNIA COAST

WHEREAS, the City of Encinitas values ocean waters and coastline, which provide habitat to an array of wildlife including marine mammals, birds and fish;

WHEREAS, the City of Encinitas coastline is part of the nations' first scientifically based network of marine protected areas along the California coastline, which was created to help ensure that the natural resources, marine ecosystem functions, and marine natural heritage of the State are protected for current and future generations;

WHEREAS, California residents and visitors enjoy the State's ocean and coast for recreation, exploration, relaxation, tourism;

WHEREAS, Encinitas residents and approximately six million annual visitors enjoy our ocean, beaches, and resources, for recreation, exploration, and relaxation;

WHEREAS, coastal dependent tourism is a part of the local economy in the communities of the Southern California coast, as well as other coastal areas in California and could be impacted by lifting of the drilling moratorium;

WHEREAS, oil and gas drilling off the Pacific Coast could put these coastal resources at risk of oil spills and other damage;

WHEREAS, prior oil spills have caused environmental and economic damage at various locations along the west coast;

WHEREAS, as recently as May 2015, California experienced an oil spill during which a pipeline ruptured near Refugio State Beach in Santa Barbara County. The spill released crude oil into the Pacific Ocean;

WHEREAS, there has been no new offshore oil and gas leases in California since the 1969 blowout of a well in Federal waters, offshore Santa Barbara County, that spilled large amounts of crude oil into the ocean and onto the beaches;

WHEREAS, beginning in 1921, the California State Legislature enacted laws that withdrew certain offshore areas from oil and gas leasing, and by 1989 the State's offshore oil and gas leasing moratorium was in place;

WHEREAS, Section 18 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S. Code [U.S.C.] 1331 et seq.) requires that preparation of a nationwide offshore oil and gas leasing program that sets a five-year

schedule of lease sales implemented by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management within the U.S. Department of the Interior;

WHEREAS, consistent with the principles of Section 18 and the resulting, regionally-tailored leasing strategy, the current exclusion of the Pacific Outer Continental Shelf from new oil and gas development is consistent with the long-standing interest of Pacific Coast States, as framed in the 2006 Agreement on Ocean Health adopted by the governors of California, Washington, and Oregon;

WHEREAS, Federal legislation has been introduced (H.R. 2242 *Keep it in the ground act 15 2017*), which provides long-term protection from future offshore oil drilling in specified California waters;

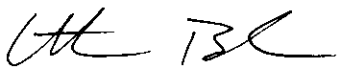
WHEREAS, the new federal administration is proposing offshore drilling to the fossil fuel industry, opening the door to more offshore leasing, drilling and fracking that could increase the probability of oil spills. This action also promotes a stronger dependence on fossil fuels, which goes against actions taken by the City and the State of California to promote a greener, more sustainable lifestyle through the utilization of alternative energy sources that promote cleaner air and protect natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the City Council joins Laguna Beach, Santa Barbara, and other California Cities in calling on the federal administration to protect our coast by banning new offshore oil and gas drilling, fracking and other well stimulation in Federal and State waters off the California Coast.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Encinitas supports a ban on new drilling, fracking, and related techniques, in State and Federal waters, in the Pacific Ocean.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of January, 2018, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Blakespear, Boerner Horvath, Kranz, Mosca, Muir
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None



Catherine S. Blakespear, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kathy Hollywood, City Clerk