

## **RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION OF OFFSHORE DRILLING ACTIVITIES AND RELATED SEISMIC BLASTING ACTIVITIES OFF OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COAST**

**Whereas**, the U.S. Department of the Interior has proposed the inclusion of the North Carolina coast and Carteret County's Crystal Coast in their proposal for exploration and development of offshore oil and gas off of the Atlantic Coast; and

**Whereas**, seismic air guns fire intense blasts of compressed air are considered to be one of the loudest man made sounds in the ocean; and

**Whereas**, these seismic blasts can occur as frequently as every ten seconds, for days to weeks at a time and are loud enough to harm marine and aquatic life; and

**Whereas**, the full impacts of seismic blasting and offshore drilling in the Atlantic are not yet fully understood by scientists, the oil and gas industry, the Bureau of ocean Energy Management of the Federal Government, and lower-impact alternative technologies may be available for exploration in the future; and

**Whereas**, exploratory and commercial drilling, extraction, and the transportation of offshore oil and gas resources poses significant economic and environmental risks; and

**Whereas**, offshore drilling activities pose specified threats for the offshore marine ecosystems as well as the coastal and river wetlands areas of Carteret County, which are of intrinsic ecological value for numerous migratory bird species, serve as essential nursery habitats for our recreational and commercially important fisheries and act as natural buffers

**Whereas**, the appreciation of our natural coastal and historical habitat, as well as commercial and recreational fishing are critical economic and quality of life drivers for Carteret County; and

**Whereas**, tourism is the economic backbone of Carteret County and offshore drilling activities and the potential for oil spills on our coastline poses a significant threat to our thriving tourism and the Carteret County tax base; and

**Whereas**, one oil spill could potentially devastate Carteret County, the economic engine and tax base; and

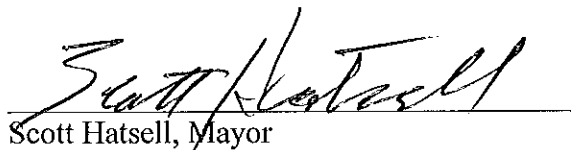
**Whereas,** Carteret County endeavors to be a good steward of our coastal environment and its resources; and

**Whereas,** it has been requested by area residents and local advocacy organizations that the Carteret County Commissioners lend their voice to this critical issue facing our Crystal coast and share this information with Governor McCrory; and

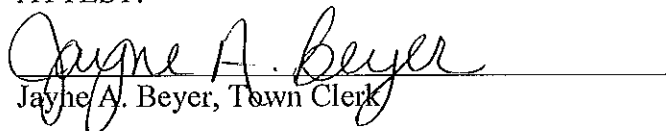
**Whereas,** Carteret County stands with other coastal North Carolina municipalities in their pursuit of shoreline protection.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the Cedar Point Board of Commissioners is opposed to offshore oil and gas development and drilling and related seismic blasting activities off of the North Carolina coast.

Adopted this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of Jan, 2016.

  
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Scott Hatsell, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Jayne A. Beyer, Town Clerk

