



Resolution Number 2015.02 Opposing Offshore Drilling

**WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Interior has included the Atlantic Ocean in its Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Leasing Draft Proposed Program for 2017-2022; and

**WHEREAS**, this proposed draft allows for oil and gas exploration in a portion of the Mid- and South Atlantic planning areas offshore Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cape May County Chamber of Commerce has a long-standing position opposing any offshore drilling in the Atlantic Ocean, and

**WHEREAS**, due to current flow and natural movement of ocean waters, an oil spill in the Atlantic Ocean would not occur in isolation and would cause catastrophic damage to a fragile and priceless ecosystem; and

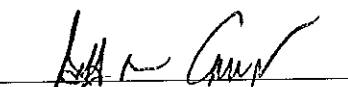
**WHEREAS**, Cape May County is located at the most southern tip of New Jersey and whose economy is driven by beach tourism and aquaculture both of which would be devastated in the event of a drilling disaster; and

**WHEREAS**, the BP, Deepwater Horizon incident which occurred in the Gulf Region of the United States resulted in catastrophic environmental and economic impacts to that area; and

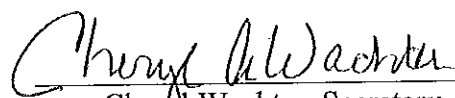
**WHEREAS**, offshore drilling poses a substantial risk of economic and environmental devastation to all shoreline communities,

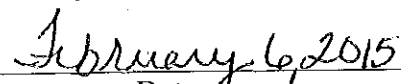
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cape May County Chamber of Commerce opposes any plan by the United States Department of Interior to allow offshore drilling in the Atlantic Ocean, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Cape May County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors does encourage the United States Government to put its energies and resources into renewable and sustainable energy programs.

  
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Scott Campbell, Chairman

  
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Vicki T. Clark, President

  
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Cheryl Wachter, Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

cc: Governor Chris Christie, Senator Robert Menendez, Senator Cory Booker,  
Congressman Frank LoBiondo, Senator Jeff Van Drew, Assemblyman Robert Andreczyczak  
Assemblyman Samuel Fiocchi, Cape May County Board of Chosen Freeholders