



CITY OF FOLLY BEACH

Introduced by: Mayor Goodwin
Date: March 10, 2015

RESOLUTION NO 14-15

A RESOLUTION BY THE FOLLY BEACH CITY COUNCIL OPPOSING SEISMIC TESTING AND OFFSHORE DRILLING NEAR FOLLY BEACH

- WHEREAS, The City of Folly Beach endeavors to be a good steward of the environment; and
- WHEREAS, our City's economy relies primarily on tourism related to our coastal environment and natural resources, which are also the primary factors contributing to the high quality of life the City's residents enjoy
- WHEREAS, the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is currently in the process of trying to open the mid and south Atlantic planning areas to exploration and development of offshore oil and gas including risky methods, such as seismic blasting; and,
- WHEREAS, seismic air-guns fire intense blasts of compressed air, one of the loudest manmade sounds in the ocean. These dynamite-like 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 testing and offshore drilling in Atlantic Ocean are not yet fully understood by scientists, the oil and gas industry, BOEM, or the Federal Government, and lower-impact alternative technologies may be available for exploration in the near future; and,
- WHEREAS, exploratory and commercial drilling, extraction, and transportation of offshore oil and gas resources pose a significant risk of a spill; and,

WHEREAS, eventual offshore drilling may require significant onshore infrastructure, such as pipelines or refineries, which may harm the character of our coast; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Folly Beach believes that more research should be done to fully understand and to better address the impacts of seismic testing and the options for mitigating those impacts before exploration begins.

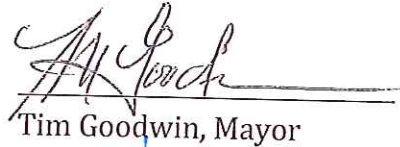
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of Folly Beach, South Carolina

That we oppose BOEM's authorization of seismic testing for offshore drilling off of the coast of Folly Beach because of the potential harm it could pose to our beach and natural resources and the devastating impact that would have on our City and economy.

RATIFIED this 10th day of March, 2015 at Folly Beach, South Carolina, in City Council duly assigned.

ATTEST:


Municipal Clerk


Tim Goodwin, Mayor