

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS DRILLING AND EXPLORATION, INCLUDING SEISMIC AIRGUN BLASTING, DUE TO THE RISK THESE ACTIVITIES POSE TO FLORIDA'S ENVIRONMENT, BEACHES, MARINE RESOURCES AND LOCAL ECONOMIES; DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO PROVIDE THIS RESOLUTION TO PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP, GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT, U.S. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR RYAN ZINKE, SENATOR NELSON, SENATOR RUBIO, CONGRESSMAN CURBELO; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the federal government has expressed interest in opening the Atlantic Ocean and Eastern Gulf of Mexico to offshore oil and gas development and exploration, including controversial methods such as seismic airgun blasting; and

WHEREAS, seismic airguns fire intense blasts of compressed air, one of the loudest manmade sounds in the ocean at 200-230 decibels, every 10 seconds, 24 hours a day for weeks to months at a time, causing environmental disturbances that could prove harmful or injure and kill dolphins, whales, endangered sea turtles, fish, and other marine life; and

WHEREAS, the full impact of seismic airgun blasting and offshore drilling are not yet fully understood by scientists, the oil and gas industry, or the federal government; and

WHEREAS, exploratory and commercial drilling, extraction, and transportation of offshore oil and gas resources pose a significant risk of an oil spill and leakage; and,

WHEREAS, offshore drilling activities pose threats to the Gulf of Mexico, the Atlantic Ocean, economically important fisheries, and every eco-system throughout the Florida Keys; and

WHEREAS, the Key West City Commission recommends that it would be more economically and ecologically responsible to pursue non-polluting sources of renewable energy such as solar and wind, that pose less risk to the coastal environment and economic health, before using uncertain methods of seismic airgun blasting for offshore oil and gas deposits.

WHEREAS, the waters of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic support 70,000 jobs in the Florida Keys, and generate about \$4.4 billion in revenue through fisheries, tourism and related industries, which could be damaged irreparably by one oil drilling disaster; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: The City Commission of the City of Key West opposes offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration, including seismic airgun blasting, which will put Florida's environment, beaches, marine resources and local economies at risk, and urges

the Federal Government not to pursue such practices off Florida's coast.

Section 2: That the City Clerk is directed to submit copies of this Resolution to President Donald J. Trump, Governor Rick Scott, Secretary Ryan Zinke, Senator Bill Nelson, Senator Marco Rubio, Congressman Carlos Curbelo.

Section 3: That this Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held this _____ day of _____, 2018.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the Commission on _____ day of _____, 2018.

Filed with the Clerk on _____, 2018.

Mayor Craig Cates	_____
Vice Mayor Clayton Lopez	_____
Commissioner Sam Kaufman	_____
Commissioner Richard Payne	_____
Commissioner Margaret Romero	_____
Commissioner Billy Wardlow	_____
Commissioner Jimmy Weekley	_____

CRAIG CATES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK