

RESOLUTION NO. 2018 2528

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, OPPOSING OFFSHORE DRILLING ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING SEISMIC AIRGUN BLASTING; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the United States government has expressed interest in opening the Atlantic Ocean and Eastern Gulf of Mexico to offshore oil and gas development and exploration, including risky 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, every 10-12 seconds for days, weeks, or months on end; and

WHEREAS, seismic airgun noise has been shown to harm and injure dolphins, whales, endangered sea turtles, fish, and other marine life; and

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

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

WHEREAS, offshore drilling activities pose threats to treasured vacation destinations on Florida's Coasts, which are of intrinsic economic value for numerous industries, provide essential nursery habitats for recreational and commercially important fisheries, and act as natural buffers from storm surge and hurricanes; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Surfside (the "Town") recognizes that the tourism and fishing industries, which depend on a healthy and vibrant coastal environment, both serve as major economic drivers benefiting the current and future residents, property owners, and visitors to Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Town endeavors to be a good steward of the state and region's environment and its resources; and

WHEREAS, exploration and development of oil and gas resources off the coast of Florida will not effectively address the long-term energy needs of our country; and

WHEREAS, the Town 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals Adopted. The above referenced "Whereas" clauses are true and correct and made a part hereof.

Section 2. Findings. The Town Commission of the Town of Surfside finds that offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration, including seismic airgun blasting, will put Florida's environment, beaches, marine resources and local economies at risk.

Section 3. Opposition to Offshore Drilling. The Town Commission of the Town of Surfside opposes offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration, including seismic airgun blasting.

Section 4. Repeal of Conflicting Resolutions. All resolutions or parts of resolutions, in conflict with this Resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.


Section 5. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of August, 2018.


Motion by Commissioner Paul.
Second by Commissioner Karukin.

FINAL VOTE ON ADOPTION

Commissioner Barry Cohen	yes
Commissioner Michael Karukin	yes
Commissioner Tina Paul	yes
Vice Mayor Daniel Gielchinsky	yes
Mayor Daniel Dietch	Absent

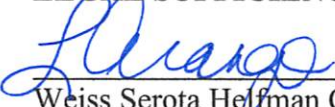
ATTEST:


Sandra Novoa, MMC,
Town Clerk



Daniel Dietch, Mayor

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE ONLY:**



Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman, P.L.
Town Attorney