

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-3408

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE, FLORIDA, OPPOSING THE INCLUSION OF NEW OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS LEASING OFF THE COAST OF FLORIDA IN THE 2024–2029 NATIONAL OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF OIL AND GAS LEASING PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the economy of the Town of Surfside ("Town") depends heavily on a healthy coastal and marine environment, supporting industries such as tourism, recreation, commercial and recreational fishing, and related small businesses; and

WHEREAS, clean water, thriving ecosystems, and an attractive coastal environment are vital to maintaining property values, sustaining local businesses, and ensuring the quality of life for residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, offshore oil and gas exploration, development, and drilling carry inherent risks, including oil spills, leaks, habitat destruction, and pollution, which could cause significant, long-term harm to our coastal economy, natural resources, and way of life; and

WHEREAS, even the perception of environmental risk associated with offshore drilling can negatively impact tourism, investment, and business development in coastal areas; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is developing the 11th National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program and has requested public input on whether to include new offshore leasing areas; and

WHEREAS, the protection of our coastal environment and economy is a priority for the Town of Surfside and the long-term well-being of our community outweighs the short-term benefits that expanded offshore drilling might offer to the oil and gas industry.

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

Section 1. Recitals Adopted. Each of the above-stated recitals are hereby adopted, confirmed, and incorporated herein.

Section 2. Town Opposition. The Town of Surfside formally opposes the inclusion of any new offshore oil and gas leasing off the coast of Florida in the 11th National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program.

Section 3. Urging Opposition. The Town of Surfside urges the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to prioritize the protection of coastal economies, communities, and ecosystems by excluding new offshore oil and gas leases from the final leasing program.

Section 4. Enactment of Protective Legislation. The Mayor, Vice Mayor and Town Commission hereby urge the Town's federal representatives in Congress to enact legislation to oppose efforts to expand offshore drilling and to support policies that protect our oceans, coasts, and the industries and communities that depend on them.

Section 5. Transmittals. The Town Clerk is hereby directed and authorized to send a certified copy of this Resolution to Ms. Kelly Hammerle, Chief, National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program Development Manager, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Senator Rick Scott, Senator Ashley Moody, Representative Frederica S. Wilson, and the Miami-Dade County Congressional Delegation.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of June, 2025.

Motion By: Vice Mayor Paul

Second By: Commissioner Velasquez

FINAL VOTE ON ADOPTION:

Commissioner Ruben A. Coto	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Nelly Velasquez	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Gerardo Vildostegui	<u>Yes</u>
Vice Mayor Tina Paul	<u>Yes</u>
Mayor Charles W. Burkett	<u>Yes</u>

ATTEST:


Sandra N. McCready, MMC
Town Clerk




Charles W. Burkett, Mayor

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY FOR THE USE
AND BENEFIT OF THE TOWN OF SURFSIDE ONLY:**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thais Hernandez", is written over a horizontal line.

Thais Hernandez, Esq.
Town Attorney