

July 28, 2015

**RESOLUTION 2015-
OPPOSING SEISMIC AIR-GUN TESTING AND OFFSHORE DRILLING ACTIVITIES**

Mayor Engelstad offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is currently in the process of trying to open the mid-Atlantic Ocean 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 human-made sounds in the ocean. These dynamic-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 the Atlantic Ocean are not yet fully understood by scientists, the oil and gas industry, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management 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 Borough of Bradley Beach endeavors to be a good steward of its coastal environment and its resources and 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, including incorporation of the National Fisheries Service's soon-to-be-released acoustic guidance document; and

WHEREAS, the exploration and development of oil and natural gas off the mid-Atlantic coast will not effectively or fully address the long-term energy needs of our country; and

WHEREAS, the Borough feels it would be more economically and ecologically responsible to pursue non-polluting sources of renewable energy through solar, wind, and biomass energy production projects that pose less risk to our coastal environment and economic health before using uncertain methods of seismic blasting for offshore oil and gas exploration.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bradley Beach is hereby opposed to seismic testing and offshore oil and gas development off the mid-Atlantic coast.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Congressman Chris Smith, Senator Robert Menendez and Senator Cory Booker.

Seconded by Councilman _____ and adopted upon the following vote:

AYES:

NAYS:

CERTIFICATION

I, Mary Ann Solinski, Municipal Clerk, Borough of Bradley Beach, Monmouth County, New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Mayor and Council at the July 28, 2015 meeting.

MARY ANN SOLINSKI, RMC, CMC
Municipal Clerk