



City of Pensacola

*America's First Settlement
Established 1559*

MICHAEL C. WIGGINS
Mayor

July 15, 2009

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader, U. S. Senate
S-221 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader, U. S. Senate
S-230 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boehner
Minority Leader, House of Representatives
H-204 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Reid, Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi and Leader Boehner:

Enclosed please find a certified copy of Resolution No. 15-09 adopted by the Pensacola City Council on July 9, 2009, reaffirming its opposition to offshore mineral exploration and extraction in the coastal area in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico.

Lifting the moratorium on mineral leasing in the Eastern Planning Area of the Gulf of Mexico poses an intolerable threat to the beaches, waterways, ecosystems, economy of Florida's Gulf Coast and national security. We urge you to include the Florida delegation in any dialogue or discussion on this matter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Michael C. Wiggins
Mayor

cc: Senator Bill Nelson
Senator Mel Martinez
Rep. Jeff Miller

RESOLUTION NO. 15-09

A RESOLUTION
TO BE ENTITLED

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PENSACOLA
REAFFIRMING ITS OPPOSITION TO OFFSHORE
MINERAL EXPLORATION AND EXTRACTION

WHEREAS, in 1990, the City Council of the City of Pensacola approved Resolution No. 23-90 opposing the leasing of the North Florida coastal area for offshore oil and gas drilling in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, the City Council of the City of Pensacola approved Resolution No. 33-99 reaffirming its opposition to proposed leasing of the North Florida coastal area for offshore oil and gas drilling in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, the City Council of the City of Pensacola approved Resolution No. 10-01 reaffirming its opposition to proposed leasing of the North Florida coastal area for offshore oil and gas drilling in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, the City Council of the City of Pensacola approved Resolution No. 20-05 reaffirming its opposition to proposed leasing of the North Florida coastal area for offshore oil and gas drilling in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, waters along the panhandle contain significant marine ecosystems that support tourism and fishing industries along the upper west coast and panhandle which bring billions of dollars a year in local and State revenue and provide environmental and aesthetic value; and

WHEREAS, wind and water currents off the panhandle may carry pollutants associated with drilling that could destroy oyster harvesting, the fishing industries and tourism in North Florida and that even routine drilling operations could cause widespread pollution damage to panhandle beaches, wetlands and sea grasses; and

WHEREAS, the testing and training ranges of the eastern Gulf of Mexico are a unique and irreplaceable national security asset that provides critical live-fire testing and training opportunities that are incompatible with mineral exploration and extraction; and


WHEREAS, lifting the moratorium on mineral leasing in the Eastern Planning Area of the Gulf of Mexico poses an intolerable threat to the beaches, waterways, economy of Florida's Gulf Coast, and national security;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF PENSACOLA, FLORIDA;

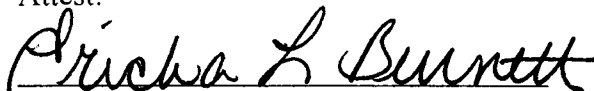
SECTION 1. That the City Council of the City of Pensacola does hereby reaffirm its opposition to offshore mineral exploration and extraction and encourages its citizenry to express its opposition.

SECTION 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the City Council.

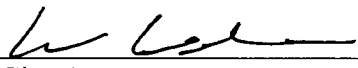
Adopted: July 9, 2009

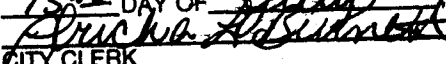
Approved: 
Mayor

Attest:


City Clerk

Legal in form and valid if adopted:


City Attorney

I, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL THEREOF ON FILE IN MY OFFICE. WITNESS MY HAND AND THE CORPORATE SEAL OF THE CITY OF PENSACOLA, FLORIDA THIS THE 15th DAY OF July, 2009

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PENSACOLA, FLORIDA