

RESOLUTION

BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ISLE OF PALMS, SOUTH CAROLINA, AUTHORIZING THE PARTICIPATION BY THE CITY OF ISLE OF PALMS IN FEDERAL COURT LITIGATION BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA ENVIRONMENTAL LAW PROJECT (SCELP) TO CHALLENGE THE PERMITTING BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF SEISMIC TESTING AND DRILLING IN ATLANTIC COASTAL WATERS, INCLUDING WATERS OFF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COAST.

IT IS RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF ISLE OF PALMS, SOUTH CAROLINA, THAT:

WHEREAS, previously the Federal Government has removed the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) from any plans for offshore oil drilling, and has denied drilling permit applications for seismic air gun survey testing, citing environmental harms and coastal community concerns; and,

WHEREAS, the seismic testing companies challenged the permit denials to the Department of the Interior, which has recently remanded the permit denials to the Bureau of Ocean & Energy Management (BOEM), effectively reviving the possibility of offshore drilling in the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf; and,

WHEREAS, on Thursday, January 4, 2018, the Federal Government published a proposal to permit drilling in most U.S. continental-shelf waters, including the Atlantic OCS, effectively opening up the waters off of South Carolina to seismic air gun surveying, and oil and gas exploration; and,

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Environmental Law Project (SCELP) has proposed litigation to challenge the current actions of the Federal Government, and the granting of permits in waters off South Carolina for seismic air gun surveying and oil and gas exploration on the grounds of environmental harm, economic damage, and community opposition; and,

WHEREAS, SCELP has enlisted the involvement and support of coastal municipalities to join in this litigation on the basis that SCELP and its attorneys would represent the municipalities in the litigation without any expense, attorneys' fees, or other financial contribution by the municipalities; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Isle of Palms strongly believes that it is in the best interest of the City of Isle of Palms, and its citizens, for the City of Isle of Palms and other coastal communities to participate in this litigation effort by the SCELPA to seek to protect our pristine Atlantic coastline and the economic advantages that the City of Isle of Palms and South Carolina derive from a coastline free from environmental degradation;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, by the City Council of the City of Isle of Palms as follows:

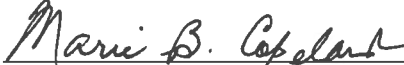
The City Administrator is authorized to acquiesce to the entry by the City of Isle of Palms as a party in the proposed litigation by the SCELPA to challenge the granting of permits in the Atlantic OCS, and other environmentally protected areas, for seismic air gun surveying and other oil and gas exploration, on the basis that such participation will be without expense, attorneys' fees, or other financial involvement by the City.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ISLE OF PALMS,
SOUTH CAROLINA ON THE 23rd DAY OF JANUARY, 2018.



Jimmy Carroll, Mayor

Attest:



Marie B. Copeland, City Clerk