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RESOLUTION NO. 2018-102

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF
PROTECTING OUR OCEAN AND COAST FROM
OFFSHORE DRILLING, EXPLORATION AND FRACKING**

WHEREAS, the City of Albany and its visitors enjoy our beaches and the Pacific Ocean for recreational, commercial, and educational activities, all of which support our local economy; and

WHEREAS, our city's residents value our state's ocean and coastal waters, which provide habitat to a vast array of wildlife, including fish, whales, sea turtles, and birds that depend on a healthy and clean environment; and

WHEREAS, offshore oil and gas drilling and seismic exploration off the Pacific coast put these coastal resources, and the communities and industries that depend on them, at risk from oil spills, intense ocean noise, and other damage; and

WHEREAS, expanding offshore oil and gas drilling, seismic exploration, fracking and other well stimulation techniques threatens coastal stakeholders, marine wildlife, human health and climate; and

WHEREAS, a massive oil spill in 1969 off the coast of Santa Barbara fouled coastal waters and caused catastrophic economic and environmental damage; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 a pipeline servicing offshore oil platforms burst and fouled the same coastal areas, damaging wildlife and impacting recreational and commercial activities; and

WHEREAS, the Trump administration has proposed to dramatically expand offshore oil and gas leasing in all US oceans, including to new areas which have largely been off-limits to new federal leasing, including the Pacific Coast; and

WHEREAS, new federal offshore oil and gas leases have not been granted in the Pacific planning area since 1984; and

WHEREAS, the seismic testing that supports offshore oil and gas leasing is a highly disruptive activity that has been shown to harm marine wildlife, from great whales to fish to zooplankton, over large areas of ocean; and

1 **WHEREAS**, hydraulic fracturing and other unconventional oil extraction techniques such as
2 acid fracturing, matrix acidizing, gravel packing and cyclic steam injection collectively referred to
3 here as “fracking and other well stimulation,” provide another means to expand offshore oil and
4 gas extraction; and

5 **WHEREAS**, fracking and other well stimulation increase pollution and the risk of oil spills
6 and earthquakes; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the offshore oil industry is permitted to dump more than 9 billion gallons of
8 wastewater into the Pacific every year including wastewater from fracking that may be laced with
9 toxic chemicals that can harm human health and wildlife; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the Governors of California, Oregon, and Washington, along with several
11 cities, have taken a stand against new federal offshore oil and gas leases in the Pacific Ocean, and
12 several municipalities have called for a ban on offshore fracking; and

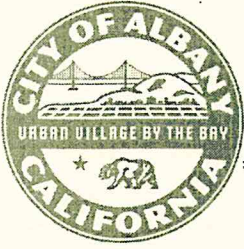
13 **WHEREAS**, expanding offshore drilling, fracking and other well stimulation off the
14 Pacific coast will deepen the state’s dependence on fossil fuels and undermine its efforts to
15 address climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and moving toward renewable
16 energy; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Interior develops and implements a nationwide
18 offshore oil and gas leasing program that determines the size, timing and location of lease sales
19 for the Outer Continental Shelf.

20 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Albany City Council supports (1) a
21 ban on new offshore oil and gas drilling, seismic oil and gas exploration, fracking, and other well
22 stimulation in federal and state waters off the Pacific coast, and (2) no new federal oil and gas
23 leasing in all U.S. waters, including off the Pacific Coast.

24 
25 PEGGY MCQUAID, MAYOR

26
27 We direct staff to forward a copy of this Resolution to Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke; Bureau of Ocean
28 Energy Management Acting Director Walter Cruickshank; Governor Jerry Brown; U. S. Senators Feinstein and
29 Harris; U.S. Representative Lee; State Senator Skinner; and State Assembly member Thurmond.



City of Albany

1000 San Pablo Avenue • Albany, California 94706
(510) 528-5710 • www.albanyca.org

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-102

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY,

The 4th day of September, 2018, by the following votes:

AYES: Council Members Barnes, Maass, Nason, Pilch and Mayor McQuaid

NOES: None

ABSENT: none

ABSTAINED: none

RECUSED: none

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, this

5th day of September, 2018.

Eileen Harrington
DEPUTY CITY CLERK