

## C O U N T Y   A D M I N I S T R A T O R



SUSAN S. MURANISHI  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

May 22, 2018

Honorable Board of Supervisors  
Administration Building  
1221 Oak Street, Room 536  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Board Members:

**SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO THE 2018 ALAMEDA COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM ADOPTING POSITIONS ON LEGISLATION – FEDERAL – ADOPT RESOLUTION TO PROTECT OUR OCEAN AND COAST FROM OFFSHORE DRILLING, EXPLORATION AND FRACKING**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Amend the County's 2018 Legislative Platform to include the following recommendations made by your Board's Personnel, Administration, and Legislation (PAL) Committee at its May 14, 2018 meeting:

Adopt a Resolution to Protect our Ocean and Coast from Offshore Drilling, Exploration and Fracking

**DISCUSSION**

**Adopt Resolution to Protect our Ocean and Coast from Offshore Drilling, Exploration and Fracking**

Pacific Coastal waters have been largely off-limits to new oil drilling since 1969, and the last lease sale in federal waters offshore was in 1984. The National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Draft Proposed Program for 2019-2024 is under consideration by the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. Included in the Draft Program proposal from the Trump administration are plans to open nearly all federal coastal waters to new offshore drilling, including the entire California coast. These offshore oil and gas leasing program proposals include the use of drilling, hydraulic fracturing, acid or steam injection - collectively known as fracking, and other well stimulation techniques to search for, locate and extract oil and gas from the ocean floor.

The potential financial and program impact to Alameda County includes the increased risk of negative environmental consequences due to disruption of the ocean floor including earthquake faults by drilling; disruption of marine habitats and migration pathways by drilling and equipment; and damage from releases of toxic chemicals, waste products or spoils and oil spills, into the water, as well as pollution from fires and/or explosions.

For these reasons, Keith Carson, District 5, Board of Supervisors recommended SUPPORT of this resolution to "Protect Our Ocean and Coast from Offshore Drilling, Exploration and Fracking" to PAL.

Very truly yours,



Susan S. Muranishi  
County Administrator

Enclosure

SSM:TSR:sh

cc: Affected County Agencies/Departments

CAO Analysts

State and Federal Legislative Advocates

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF  
ALAMEDA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**RESOLUTION NO. R-2018-164**

A RESOLUTION TO PROTECT OUR OCEAN AND COAST  
FROM OFFSHORE DRILLING, EXPLORATION, AND FRACKING

**WHEREAS**, the County of Alameda 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 County'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, noise, and other damage; and

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

**WHEREAS**, the Trump Administration has proposed to dramatically expand offshore oil and gas leasing in all U.S. waters, including to 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**, hydraulic fracturing and other unconventional oil extraction techniques such as acid fracturing, matrix acidizing, gravel packing and cyclic steam injection collectively referred to here as "fracking and other well stimulation," provide another means to expand offshore oil and gas extraction; and

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

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

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

**WHEREAS**, the County of Alameda's 2018 Legislative Platform call for limiting or prohibiting the extraction, handling and transportation of fossil fuels as well as ensuring that fracking, offshore and onshore oil drilling, and mining on sensitive lands are prohibited; and

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

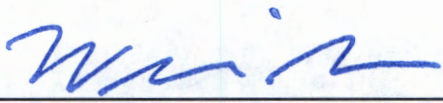
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the County of Alameda (1) supports a ban on new offshore oil and gas drilling, seismic oil and gas exploration, fracking, and other well stimulation in federal and state waters off the Pacific coast, and (2) opposes new federal oil and gas leasing in U.S. waters, including off the Pacific Coast.

**THE FOREGOING** was **PASSED** and **ADOPTED** by a majority vote of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda this 5<sup>th</sup> day of June 2018, by the following vote:

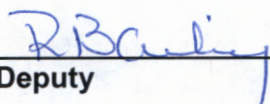
**AYES:** Supervisors Carson, Haggerty, Miley, Valle & President Chan

**NOES:** None

**EXCUSED:** None

  
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**Wilma Chan**  
**PRESIDENT, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**ATTEST:**  
**ANIKA CAMPBELL-BELTON**  
**CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Deputy**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**  
**DONNA R. ZIEGLER, COUNTY COUNSEL**

By:   
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