

RESOLUTION NO2021-012

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA, URGING THE BAHAMIAN GOVERNMENT TO DENY OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING EXPLORATION LICENSES AND PERMANENTLY BAN OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING ACTIVITIES IN THE BAHAMAS; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS; the Bahamas Petroleum Company (“BPC”) has been granted an offshore oil drilling exploration license by the Bahamian government that allows them to construct exploratory offshore oil drilling wells 150 miles off the coast of Florida; and

WHEREAS, exploratory and commercial drilling, extraction, and transportation of offshore oil and gas resources by BPC poses a significant risk of oil spills and chronic leakage that may adversely impact the Bahamas and coastal communities in the Caribbean and Florida; and

WHEREAS, offshore drilling activities pose threats to treasured vacation destinations in the Caribbean and along Florida’s Coasts, which are of intrinsic economic value for numerous industries and countries, provide essential nursery habitats for recreational and commercially important fisheries, and act as natural buffers from storm surge and hurricanes; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hialeah (“City”) is one of numerous communities in Florida and in the Caribbean; and

WHEREAS, the City endeavors to protect the environmental health of all marine habitats, and, particularly, Biscayne Bay; and

WHEREAS, exploration and development of oil and gas resources off the Bahamian coast may not effectively address the long-term economic diversification goals of the Bahamas, and would likely substantially damage the tourism sector of the Bahamian economy, which makes up sixty percent of the country’s economy; and

WHEREAS, the City urges the Bahamian government to deny offshore oil drilling exploration licenses and to permanently ban offshore oil drilling activities in the Bahamas, and further urges Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida to oppose such offshore oil drilling and work with the Bahamian government in such efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1: The above recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein.

Section 2: Urging the Bahamian Government to Ban Offshore Oil Drilling.

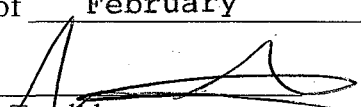
The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Hialeah, Florida respectfully urges the Bahamian government to deny offshore oil drilling exploration licenses and further urges the Bahamian government to permanently ban all offshore oil drilling activities in the Bahamas. The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Hialeah, Florida further urges Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida to oppose such offshore oil drilling and to work with the Bahamian government in such efforts.

Section 3: Transmittal.

The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Hialeah, Florida hereby directs the City Clerk to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Bahamian Prime Minister Hubert Minnis, the Bahamian Ambassador to the U.S. Sidney S. Collie, the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners, Governor Ron DeSantis on behalf of the State of Florida and the Miami-Dade County League of Cities.

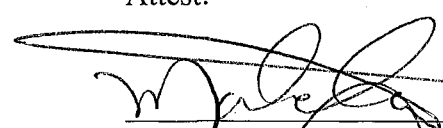
Section 4: This resolution shall become effective upon signature of the Mayor of the City of Hialeah, Florida or at the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting, if the Mayor's signature

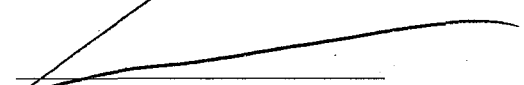
PASSED AND ADOPTED this 16 day of February, 2021.


Jesus Tundidor
Council President

Attest:

Approved on this 23 day of February, 2021.


Marbelys Fatjo, City Clerk


Mayor Carlos Hernandez

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:


Lorena E. Bravo, City Attorney

Resolution was adopted by 6-0-1 vote with Councilmembers, De la Rosa, Garcia-Roves, Hernandez, Perez, Tundidor, and Zogby voting "Yes" and with Council Member Cue-Fuente recording her vote as "Yes" via Zoom.