



RESOLUTION NO. 2015-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING PROPOSED LEGISLATION PROVIDING A STATEWIDE PROHIBITION ON HYDRAULIC FRACTURING, ACID FRACTURING, AND WELL STIMULATION PERFORMED FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXPLORATION OF PRODUCTION OF OIL OR NATURAL GAS IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA; ALSO OPPOSING ANY PROPOSED OR CURRENT LEGISLATION THAT WOULD ALLOW FOR THE AFOREMENTIONED FRACTURING, EXPLORATION OR PRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Neptune Beach City Council takes great pride in supporting the highest quality of life among Neptune Beach residents; and

WHEREAS, the Neptune Beach City Council is dedicated to protecting and improving our water and most precious natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the City of Neptune Beach is composed of a large section of waterfront property and is a low-lying coastal community, vulnerable to any water interruption or pollution, and to the impacts of sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing, also known as well stimulation, may involve the use of hundreds of chemicals, some of which are known to be carcinogenic or otherwise harmful to human beings; and

WHEREAS, exposure to the chemicals used in well stimulation treatments would pose a widespread and significant risk to the aquifer, public health and Florida's most precious natural resources; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing may involve the use of substantial amount of freshwater at a time when many Florida local governments are struggling with the impacts that water scarcity may have in the state in the near future; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing may result in emission of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide and methane, all of which would further exacerbate climate change and its impact to Florida's economic and environment; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing, as planned, will harm wildlife, including species that are protected under federal and state endangered species laws; and

WHEREAS, the prohibition of such practices will help protect the public health, safety and welfare of the state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Neptune Beach City Council supports legislation on a statewide ban on the use of hydraulic fracturing, acid fracturing and well stimulation treatments performed for the purposes of exploration and production of oil or natural gas in the State of Florida due to the potential harmful impacts on the public health, environment and natural resources.

Section 1. The City of Neptune Beach will send a copy of the approved resolution to the Governor, the Speaker of the House, the Senate President, Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Duval County State Legislative Delegation.

Section 2. This resolution will take effect immediately upon its adoption.

This Resolution adopted by the City Council at the regular meeting held on this 2nd day of November, 2015.

Harriet Pruette, Mayor

ATTEST:

Karla Strait, CMC, City Clerk