



RESOLUTION No. 33-2010

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA, OPPOSING THE EXPANSION OF OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING WITHIN THREE MILES OF MARTIN COUNTY'S COAST; REQUESTING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE NOT CONSIDER THIS MATTER AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS**, tourism accounts for one third of budget revenues statewide and 96% of visitors cite the beaches as an influential factor in their decision to visit Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, tourist tax collections in Martin County exceeded \$513,000 in fiscal year 2007 and more than one million Floridians are employed in businesses that directly support tourists as of 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, the oil drilling economic benefits alleged fail to take into account the risks to Florida's tourism industry due to offshore drilling rigs, pipelines, storage facilities, vessels, and other infrastructure in and on Florida land and waters that are in direct visual, physical and environmental conflict with the world-class beaches that are the basis of Florida's tourism and economy; and

**WHEREAS**, Martin County economy is heavily tied to clean beaches which then attract visitors to our businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, despite technological advances in oil rig drilling technology, there is no positive assurance that catastrophic damage to our coastline, beaches, plant and fish life can be avoided – whether from drilling mud containing heavy metals such as mercury, regular production, or accidental oil spills – and whether during normal operating conditions or during storm events; and

**WHEREAS**, the oil industry is proposing to place oil wells within three miles of Martin County's coasts and puts at risk our largest industry and quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the oil industry lobby is pushing for a special session in hopes of preying on the State's tight financial condition to reverse a 28-year ban on oil drilling off of Florida's coast.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA that:

SECTION 1: The City of Stuart, Florida, requests the Governor not call a special session of the Florida Legislature in an attempt to rush through this proposal which risks Martin County's economy and quality of life.

SECTION 2: That before additional expansion of drilling areas in the Atlantic Ocean be considered, that the significant expansion recently allowed be explored.

SECTION 3: That the City of Stuart, Florida will continue to take steps to become more energy efficient and institute efforts to encourage the City's residents to do the same.

SECTION 4: This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon final passage and adoption.

Commissioner HUTCHINSON offered the foregoing resolution and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner CHRISTIE, and upon being put to a roll call vote, was as follows.

MICHAEL J. MORTELL, MAYOR

CAROL S. WAXLER, VICE MAYOR

JAMES A. CHRISTIE, JR.COMMISSIONER

MARY L. HUTCHINSON, COMMISSIONER

JEFFERY A. KRAUSKOPF, COMMISSIONER

YES	NO	ABSENT
X		
X		
X		
X		
X		

ADOPTED this 22nd day of March, 2010.

ATTEST:



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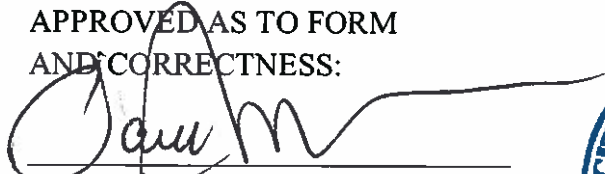
CHERYL WHITE  
CITY CLERK



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MICHAEL J. MORFELL  
MAYOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND CORRECTNESS:



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PAUL J. NICOLETTI  
CITY ATTORNEY

