

**THE CITY OF WARWICK**  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

*No. .... Date .....*

*Approved. .... Mayor*

**A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED INCLUSION OF THE  
NORTH ATLANTIC REGION IN THE 2019-2024 NATIONAL OUTER CONTINENTAL  
SHELF OIL AND GAS LEASING PROGRAM**

Resolved that,

**WHEREAS**, the Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management (BOEM) in the U.S. Department of Interior has released the 2019-2024 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Draft Proposed Program, a draft program proposal for offshore oil and gas leasing for the next five years; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposal would open the federal waters of the North Atlantic region to oil and gas exploration and drilling, an area that begins just three miles off the coasts of New Jersey through Maine, within which the State of Rhode Island is centrally situated; and

**WHEREAS**, Rhode Islanders have long relied upon New England's marine environment as a source of food, jobs, and recreation and, through strong laws and leadership at the state and local level, have conserved and protected our fisheries, habitats, and coastal resources; and

**WHEREAS**, Rhode Island's commitment to sound marine and coastal stewardship has reaped enormous cultural, environmental, and economic benefits for the citizens of the State, with healthy coastal communities, a vibrant Narragansett Bay, a thriving tourist industry, and productive fisheries all serving as hallmarks of the Ocean State; and

**WHEREAS**, Rhode Island has long been committed to sound ocean planning as a basis for accommodating new, sustainable ocean uses such as wind energy and is home to the nation's first off-shore wind farm; and

**WHEREAS**, Rhode Island recognizes and is acting upon the need to ensure that its coastal communities are resilient in the face of rising sea levels and other impacts associated with climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, oil and gas drilling has never been viewed as compatible with our state and regional interests and thus has been removed from consideration for decades; and

**WHEREAS**, prior experience has shown the devastating consequences of oil spills; and

**WHEREAS**, now, more than ever, Rhode Islanders, in every community, stand opposed to the use of our offshore waters to oil and gas drilling;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, we, united in our determination to protect our cultural heritage, our marine ecosystem, and our economic future, hereby call upon the Secretary of the Interior to remove the North Atlantic region from consideration for oil and gas exploration and drilling.

The City Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to Secretary of the Interior, and the Rhode Island Federal Delegation, Governor Raimondo, and the R.I. General Assembly.

This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.

SPONSORED BY: COUNCILWOMAN TRAVIS  
ON BEHALF OF MAYOR AVEDISIAN

COMMITTEE: HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE