



RESOLUTION NO. 009-2018

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF EL DORADO

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

WHEREAS, El Dorado County 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 exploration off the Pacific Coast put these coastal resources, and the communities and industries that depend on them, at risk from oil spills and other damage; and

WHEREAS, expanding offshore oil and gas drilling, fracking and other well stimulation techniques threaten 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 federal government has taken recent steps to vastly expand offshore oil and gas leasing to new areas which have been largely off-limits to new federal leasing, including the Pacific Coast; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the unacceptably high risk of damage to the marine environment of its adjacent ocean and coastal areas, the State of California currently prohibits new leasing in state waters; 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 as fracking and other well stimulation, provide another means to expand offshore oil and gas extraction off California's coast; and

WHEREAS, fracking and other well stimulation increase pollution and the risk of oil spills and earthquakes; 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, causing irreversible harm to human health and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of California, the Attorney General, the State Senate, and the State Lands Commission 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, expanding offshore drilling, fracking and other well stimulation off the California 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 Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado supports (1) a ban on new offshore oil and gas drilling, fracking, and other well stimulation in federal and state waters off the California coast, and (2) no new federal oil and gas leasing in all U.S. waters, including off the coast of California.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado at a regular meeting of said Board, held the 30th day of January, 2018 by the following vote of said Board:

Attest:
James S. Mitrison
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Ayes:
Noes:
Absent:

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Michael Ranalli, Chair, Board of Supervisors

