RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA OPPOSING NEW OFFSHORE OIL LEASES IN FEDERAL WATERS OFF OF THE CALIFORNIA COAST

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WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County hereby submits this resolution in response to the call for comments on the Draft Proposed Five-Year Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Leasing Program (DPP) for 2019 through 2024 as proposed by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and referenced in Federal Register Volume 83, Number 5 (Monday, January 8, 2018) Notices, Pages 829-834, FR Doc No: 2018-00083.

WHEREAS, the coastal waters of Santa Barbara County are a national treasure that attract millions of visitors per year for beach going, surfing, fishing, diving, and boating; and

WHEREAS, coastal recreation, fishing, boating, and tourism are essential components of the local economy as well as treasured staples of life in Santa Barbara County; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Barbara Harbor is a port for commercial fishing, recreational boating, diving, whale-watching, and cruise ship tourism; and

WHEREAS, the coastal waters off of Santa Barbara County include Channel Islands National Park, numerous marine protected areas, support uniquely rich biodiversity, and provide habitat for endangered species such the blue whale; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 an oil pipeline ruptured along the Gaviota Coast which fouled beaches and coastal waters in both Santa Barbara County and beyond, and caused catastrophic damage to the environment, wildlife, fisheries, and the local economy; and

WHEREAS, in 1969 a well failure off our coast fouled the ocean and beaches, and caused catastrophic damage to the region, the local economy, and sparking the beginning of the modern environmental movement; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County finds the BOEM provision of only one California public hearing opportunity on the Draft Proposed Five-Year OCS Leasing Program wholly inadequate and hereby requests additional public hearings in our own community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara hereby opposes new offshore oil leases in the federal waters off of the California Coast and assert that the California Coast deserves protection equal to that of the State of Florida.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California this 30th day of January, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES:

Supervisor Williams, Supervisor Wolf, and Supervisor Hartmann

NOES:

Supervisor Adam, and Supervisor Lavagnino

ABSENT:

None

ABSTAIN:

None

Das Williams

Chair, Board of Supervisors County of Santa Barbara

ATTEST:

Mona Miyasato Clerk of the Board

Deputy Clerk

Approved as to Form: Michael Ghizzoni

County Counsel

Deputy County Counsel