



TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY

Incorporated November 14, 1955

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October 14, 2009

Dear Colleague,

Earlier this year there was a movement in the State Legislature to allow oil and gas drilling three to nine miles off the coast of Florida. Later in what was probably an astute political maneuver the entire East Coast and the Panhandle were taken off the table. This left only the West coast of Florida to fight this battle.

As the Mayor of a Gulf coast barrier island community I am asking for your help and support in opposing this offshore oil drilling initiative. We need to demonstrate that a "divide and conquer" approach will not work in trying to push something through local governments in this State.

I am asking for your support because offshore drilling is not necessary and not essential to our economy. I am asking for your help because your community is not directly impacted and those supporting this measure assume you will not become actively involved.

I hope they are wrong. I have attached a copy of a draft resolution I am asking you to present to your council or commission for adoption. If approved, I ask that you send it to your local legislative delegation to let them know that we will stand together. In return I pledge to you that if your community is ever faced with a similar situation, you will have our support.

If your council or commission does decide to take action, I ask that you send us a copy of your resolution.

If you have a staff member that will be studying the issue we will be pleased to provide them with information. Our Town Manager will also visit your council if you would like to have a better understanding of our position.

Thank you for your consideration and please don't hesitate to contact me or our Town Manager if you have any questions.

My best regards,

Lee Rothenberg,
Mayor