

RESOLUTION 86-31

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A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD, PORT OF TAMPA, THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION, THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES EXPEDITE THOSE ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT BELCHER OIL COMPANY NOT BE ALLOWED PERMISSION TO OFF-LOAD OIL BARGES IN OR NEAR EGMONT KEY WATERS

WHEREAS, any oil off-loading operation could constitute devastation to the beaches and shores of Longboat Key; and

WHEREAS, any such spill could annihilate or severely damage marine life from Egmont Key (a wildlife preserve) to Longboat Key, Fort DeSoto Park, Anna Maria Island, Tampa Bay and the Manatee River; and

WHEREAS, an oil spill, crude or refined, can wreak havoc in an ecologically sensitive area, refined oil more so, because it is absorbed into the waters, making it more difficult to clean up; and

WHEREAS, Belcher Oil Company (according to State Records) has been responsible for seven minor spills including one at Port Manatee; and

WHEREAS, the profit structure of one corporation could endanger the entire ecological food chain of this area:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY:

1. The United States Coast Guard, Port of Tampa, the Department of Environmental Regulation and the Department of Natural Resources are hereby requested and urged to refuse Belcher Oil Company permission to transfer or off-load oil barges anywhere in or near Egmont Key.

2. Copies of this resolution are to be forwarded to the Governor, the Legislature of the State of Florida, Senator Lawton chiles, Senator Paula Hawkins, Representative Andy Ireland, State Senator Patrick Neal, Representatives Larry Shackelford and Peggy Simone, the Manatee County Commission, City of Bradenton Beach, City of Holmes Beach and City of Anna Maria.

ADOPTED this 8th day of September, 1986.



CM Stewart
Mayor

Attest:



E. Jane Bol
Town Clerk

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