

RESOLUTION NO.: _____

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DADE CITY, FLORIDA OPPOSING LEGISLATION PENDING IN THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PREVENT COMMUNITIES FROM REGULATING FRACKING AND TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING A STATEWIDE BAN ON EXTREME HYDRAULIC FRACTURING AND OTHER SIMILAR METHODOLOGIES FOR ENERGY RESOURCE EXTRACTION IN FLORIDA.

WHEREAS, the oil and gas industries have surged over the past decade by employing new techniques and technologies that combine horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing (a/k/a fracking) to extract natural gas and oil otherwise unreachable with conventional technologies from underground rock formations; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic and acid fracturing of underground geologic formations is accomplished by injecting a complex mix of water, sand, and hazardous chemicals under very high pressure to create fractures in gas-bearing geologic formations. The gas and oil are pumped back to the surface, along with millions of gallons of "flowback", a mix of recovered fracking fluid and water released from the underground rock formations along with the gas and oil. Flowback contains harmful contaminants, such as naturally occurring radioactivity, heavy metals, hydrocarbons, brine and other toxins. This wastewater is stored on the fracking site in pits, injected in deep underground disposal wells or trucked off-site for treatment prior to discharge to surface waters; and

WHEREAS, these new methodologies clearly involve the use of chemicals and hazardous materials during construction, drilling, fracturing, gas productions and delivery, and storage operations; and

WHEREAS, fracturing uses anywhere from 30,000 gallons up to 13 million gallons of water for each drilling operation, and each well site can be fractured over 13 times; and

WHEREAS, well stimulation permanently pollutes millions of gallons of water with the chemicals used in fracking and acidizing and with the radioactive materials and heavy metals in the flowback; and

WHEREAS, more than 1,000 documented cases of water contamination near fracking sites have been reported and many of the chemical constituents including neurotoxins, suspected carcinogens, and documented developmental toxins injected during fracturing have documented adverse health effects and/or adverse environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, in addition, wastewater from fracking can contain radioactive elements and has been discharged into surface waters and rivers that supply drinking water for millions; and

WHEREAS, Dade City and Pasco County are part of Tampa Bay Water (TBW) which supplies clean drinking water from 11 permitted underground well-fields to over 2.3 million customers in the Tampa

Bay area. As much as 87.6 MGD of clean water are produced by TBW from combined sources, but 64.9% of that water is provided from area groundwater from well-fields; and

WHEREAS, the oil and gas industries are not required by federal law to publicly disclose chemical formulas of well stimulation and fracturing fluids, so that this information is publicly unavailable for health and safety purposes; and

WHEREAS, protection of Florida's water supplies and resources is better accomplished by prevention of contamination and environmental degradation, rather than attempts to clean up contamination and restoring degraded environments after the fact; and

WHEREAS, Dade City has substantial concerns about the potential harmful effects of the proposed drilling, including adverse environmental impacts such as the degradation and possible contamination of the Floridan Aquifer, the substantial impact that such drilling operations will have on the fragile groundwater sources for the Tampa Bay area, as well as the possible harm and injury to residential wells and area wildlife; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 318 and House Bill 191 are currently pending in the Florida Legislature and propose to completely pre-empt the regulation of all matters relating to the exploration, development, production, processing, storage, and transportation of oil and gas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DADE CITY, FLORIDA THAT:

Section 1: Based upon the above-referenced factual information, the City of Dade City strongly objects to the passage of SB 318 and/or HB 191 and urges Governor Scott, the Pasco Legislative Delegation, the Pasco County Board of County Commissioners, the Florida League of Cities and Tampa Bay Water to oppose such legislation and to instead, support a statewide ban on extreme hydraulic fracturing and other similar methodologies for energy resource extraction in Florida and off-shore.

Section 2: The City Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Resolution to Governor Scott, each member of the Pasco Legislative Delegation, the Chairman of the Pasco County Board of County Commissioners, the Florida League of Cities, and Tampa Bay Water.

Section 3: This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this 10th day of November, 2015.

ATTEST:

CITY OF DADE CITY, FLORIDA

Angelia Guy, City Clerk

Camille S. Hernandez, Mayor