

RESOLUTION 2016-01-639

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS OF LYNN HAVEN, FLORIDA, REQUESTING A STATEWIDE BAN ON OIL AND GAS EXTREME HYDRAULIC FRACTURING, ACID FRACTURING AND ANY FORM OF WELL STIMULATION FOR OIL AND GAS IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, oil and gas well stimulation such as hydraulic and acid fracturing (fracking and acidification) involve the use of chemicals and hazardous materials during construction, drilling, fracturing, gas production and delivery, well maintenance, and workover operations; and

WHEREAS, Florida's water supply comes from highly permeable limestone formations which are vulnerable to contamination from hydraulic rock-fracturing activities designed to extract hydrocarbons; and

WHEREAS, fracturing of underground geologic formations is accomplished by injecting a complex mix of fluids and chemicals under very high pressure to create fractures in gas bearing geologic formations; and the water used is contaminated forever; and

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

WHEREAS, well stimulation may permanently pollute 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, wastewater disposal is a critical concern for our fresh water supply and environment, such as surface ponds, trucking wastewater over long distances, deep well injection and treated flowback to use at well heads all have potential for harm; and

WHEREAS, many of the chemical constituents injected during fracturing have documented adverse health effects and/or adverse environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, pollution of water caused by well stimulation and fracking threatens the long term economic wellbeing of communities, as businesses and consumers depend on clean drinking water; and

WHEREAS, oil and gas industry is 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, hydraulic fracturing poses potential risks for contaminating the Floridian aquifer, the source of drinking water for Bay County and nearly 10 million Floridians; and

WHEREAS, wise stewardship of our natural resources involves protection of Florida's water supplies and water resources for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, protection of Florida's water supplies and resources is better accomplished by prevention of contamination and environmental degradation, rather than attempting to clean

up contamination and restoring degraded environments after the fact; and

WHEREAS, Lynn Haven is the home of North Bay and critical estuaries. These contribute to the tourism economy of the county.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Commission of the City of Lynn Haven, Florida, in regular session, support a statewide ban on oil and gas hydraulic fracturing, acid fracturing and any form of extreme well stimulation and resource extraction, including prohibiting the disposal of related materials and byproducts, anywhere within the State of Florida or in the waters adjacent to the State.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Commission will send a letter to our state legislators and the Governor of the State of Florida calling for a ban on hydraulic fracturing and for them to introduce and/or support a legislative bill prohibiting all forms of oil and gas extreme well stimulation and resource extraction, and the disposal of related materials and byproducts, anywhere within the State of Florida or in the waters adjacent to the State.

THIS RESOLUTION shall become effective on January 26, 2016.

Margo Deal Anderson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joel B. Schubert, City Manager