

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015 -10**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE OPPOSING EXTREME METHODS OF OIL AND GAS EXTRACTION, INCLUDING HYDRAULIC AND ACIDIC FRACTURING OR "FRACKING" WITHIN THE STATE OF FLORIDA AND ITS ADJACENT WATERS.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Augustine is composed of a large section of waterfront property and is a low-lying coastal community at the frontline to experience the impacts of sea level rise; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Augustine has various vital facilities and infrastructure that could be adversely affected by sea level rise; and

**WHEREAS**, climate scientists and other groups such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Coastal Services Center have predicted the potential erosion of dry land and loss of waterfront property as a result of sea level rise; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida's aquifer is already compromised from its overuse and polluted by continued runoff; and

**WHEREAS**, the limestone layer covering much of the aquifer has proven vulnerable to sinkhole activity; and

**WHEREAS**, hydraulic and acidic fracturing or "fracking" and other extreme methods of oil and gas extraction have already raised serious questions of damage to water sources and geologic stability in other areas of the country; and

**WHEREAS**, the potential for a damaging event to the aquifer and limestone layer could prove to be beyond the ability to mitigate no matter how great or small the risk of occurrence of such event; and

WHEREAS, such events could affect water and land far outside the confines of the area permitted for hydraulic and acidic fracturing, or "fracking" or other extreme methods of oil and gas extraction;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Commission of the City of St. Augustine declares its opposition to hydraulic and acidic fracturing or "fracking" or other extreme methods of oil and gas extraction anywhere within the State of Florida or in the waters adjacent to the State.

Section 2. The City Commission of the City of St. Augustine requests that no State agency issue permits for such purpose and urge the Legislators of the State of Florida to pass legislation prohibiting hydraulic and acidic fracturing or "fracking" or other extreme methods of oil and gas extraction or the disposal of related materials and by-products, anywhere within the State of Florida, or in the waters adjacent to the State, and allocate sufficient appropriations to ensure success of the legislation.

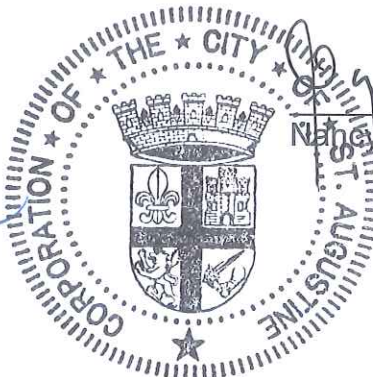
Section 3. The City Commission of the City of St. Augustine further requests the Governor of the State of Florida to sign such legislation.

ADOPTED in Regular Session of the City Commission for the City of St. Augustine, Florida this 23rd day of March, 2015.

ATTEST:

  
Alison Ratkovic, City Clerk

(SEAL)



  
Nancy E. Shaver, Mayor-Commissioner