

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015 - 065**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA OPPOSING THE OIL DRILLING PERMIT APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY KANTER REAL ESTATE LLC, A FLORIDA FOR PROFIT LIMITED LIABILITY CORPORATION, TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SEEKING OIL DRILLING RIGHTS ON PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE FLORIDA EVERGLADES, APPROXIMATELY SIX MILES WEST OF THE CITY OF MIRAMAR'S WESTERNMOST BOUNDARIES, AND SUPPORTING EFFORTS OPPOSING EXTREME WELL STIMULATION, HYDRAULIC FRACTURING, ACID FRACTURING, AND ANY FORM OF EXTREME WELL STIMULATION FOR PURPOSES OF RESOURCE EXTRACTION IN THE FLORIDA EVERGLADES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Town recently learned that Kanter Real Estate LLC, a Florida for profit limited liability corporation ("Kanter"), has submitted an application for an oil drilling permit to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection seeking authorization to conduct exploratory oil well drilling operations on property owned by Kanter located approximately six miles west of the City of Miramar's westernmost boundary in the Florida Everglades; and

**WHEREAS**, if granted, the oil drilling is anticipated to exceed 11,000 feet in depth, well below the area known as the Biscayne Aquifer, which provides the water supply for Southwest Ranches residents and many residents of Broward County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town, along with many local agencies, have expressed substantial concerns about the potential harmful effects of the proposed drilling, including potential adverse environmental impacts such as the degradation and possible contamination of the Biscayne Aquifer, the substantial impact that such drilling operations will have on the Florida Everglades fragile ecosystem comprised of water supplies, plant and vegetation, as well as the possible harm and injury to wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, extreme well stimulation such as hydraulic and acid fracturing (also known as "fracking") is the process of pumping a complex mix of fluids and chemicals, including large volumes of water, under very high pressure into or below the surface of the ground to create fractures in oil – or gas-bearing geologic formations for the purpose of producing or recovering oil or gas; and

**WHEREAS**, many of the chemical constituents injected during fracturing have documented adverse effects on human health and the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, there have been more than 1,000 documented cases of water contamination near fracking sites; and

**WHEREAS**, use of these well stimulation fracturing mixes exposes adjacent land and surface waters to the risk of contamination through open pit storage, truck transport on roadways, and activities during well development such as the exploratory well sought by Kanter; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida's water supplies and resources are better protected through the prevention of contamination and environmental degradation from the outset, rather than the cleanup of contamination and restoration of degraded environments after the fact; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council deems it to be in the best interest of the residents and citizens of the Town of Southwest Ranches to present its vehement opposition to the Kanter oil drilling permit application and resultant operations, since the Town of Southwest Ranches is in close proximity to the location of the proposed drilling and will likely suffer substantial adverse impacts associated with the exploratory oil drilling sought by Kanter.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida:

**Section 1: Recitals.** The recitals above are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.

**Section 2: Opposition.** That the Town Council hereby publicly expresses its vehement opposition to the exploratory oil drilling operations sought by Kanter Real Estate, LLC in the area approximately six miles west of the City of Miramar's westernmost municipal boundary and urges Broward County and all municipalities in Broward County to consider similar legislation opposing the efforts of Kanter.

**Section 3: Opposition.** The Town Council hereby opposes extreme well stimulation, hydraulic fracturing, acid fracturing, and any form of extreme well stimulation for purposes of resource extraction in the Florida Everglades.

**Section 4: Distribution.** The Town Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Resolution to Broward County and all cities within Broward County.

**Section 5: Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2015, on a motion by V/A Fisikelli and seconded by C/M Breitkreuz.

Nelson	<u>aye</u>
Fisikelli	<u>aye</u>
Breitkreuz	<u>aye</u>
Jablonski	<u>absent</u>
McKay	<u>aye</u>

Ayes	<u>4</u>
Nays	<u>0</u>
Absent	<u>1</u>
Abstaining	<u>  </u>

Jeff Nelson  
Jeff Nelson, Mayor

Attest:

Russell Muniz  
Russell Muniz, Assistant Town Administrator/Town Clerk

Approved as to Form and Correctness:

Keith Poliakoff  
Keith Poliakoff, Town Attorney