

Resolution

Opposing the U.S. Department of the Interior's Idle Iron policy and supporting the proposed REEFS Act and the proposed Rigs to Reef Habitat Protection Act.

Whereas, the U.S. Department of the Interior issued the Idle Iron Policy directive ("Idle Iron") on October 15, 2010, directing removal of oil and gas platforms, rigs and associated structures ("rigs") in the Gulf of Mexico for wells that have not produced oil or gas within five (5) years of the directive's issue date.

Whereas, during the past two years, approximately 475 rigs have been removed from the Gulf of Mexico pursuant to Idle Iron and more than 200 additional rigs are scheduled for removal in 2012.

Whereas, the Artificial Reef Act of 1989, known as "Rigs-to-Reefs," was passed to promote and enhance the artificial reef potential off the Texas coast of the Gulf of Mexico.

Whereas, U.S. Representative Blake Farenthold (Texas) filed House Resolution 6208, "Retaining Essential Environmental Fishing Structures Act" ("REEFS Act"), on July 26, 2012, to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to require or authorize removal or movement of offshore rigs.

Whereas, U.S. Senator David Vitter (Louisiana) introduced Senate Bill 1555 on September 14, 2011 and U.S. Representative Steven Palazzo (Mississippi) introduced House Resolution 6208 on November 15, 2011, collectively the "Rigs to Reef Habitat Protection Act," to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to require or authorize removal or movement of offshore rigs.

Whereas, the Corpus Christi City Council believes that the rigs in the Gulf of Mexico are beneficial for the Gulf of Mexico and Corpus Christi in that they are the basis for a thriving artificial reef ecosystem that sustain a variety of marine life and should not be removed.

Whereas, this resolution aligns with the City Council's goals of paying special attention to our unique environment.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Corpus Christi, Texas:

SECTION 1. The City Council, as the governing body of the City of Corpus Christi, opposes the U.S. Department of the Interior's Idle Iron policy and supports the proposed REEFS Act and the proposed Rigs to Reef Habitat Protection Act.

This resolution takes effect upon City Council approval on this the _____ day of _____, 2012.

ATTEST:

THE CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI

Armando Chapa
City Secretary

Joe Adame
Mayor

Corpus Christi, Texas

_____ of _____, 2012

The above resolution was passed by the following vote:

Joe Adame _____

Chris N. Adler _____

Kelley Allen _____

Larry Elizondo, Sr. _____

Priscilla G. Leal _____

David Loeb _____

John E. Marez _____

Nelda Martinez _____

Mark Scott _____