

## A Resolution Opposing Offshore Mineral Exploration

**WHEREAS**, the test and training ranges of the eastern Gulf of Mexico are a unique and irreplaceable national security asset providing critical airspace for high priority missions for joint Department of Defense military installations and units located in Northwest Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, critical live-fire test and training opportunities take place in the eastern Gulf of Mexico that are incompatible with current mineral exploration and extraction processes and techniques; and

**WHEREAS**, waters along the Northwest Florida shoreline contain significant marine ecosystems that support both tourism and the fishing industries and are responsible for billions of dollars a year in local and state revenue while providing both an environmental and aesthetic value; and

**WHEREAS**, the emerald green waters and pristine white beaches are the main attractions for visitors coming to Okaloosa County; and

**WHEREAS**, tourism, hospitality and the defense industry are the largest employers in Okaloosa County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of County Commissioners of Okaloosa County, Florida is opposed to offshore drilling in the Gulf of Mexico east of the Military Mission Line.

**DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2009.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**ATTEST:**

*Bill Roberts*  
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**BILL ROBERTS, CHAIRMAN**



*Dany J. Stanford*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**DON HOWARD**  
**CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT**

