

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY, FLORIDA, URGING THE BAHAMIAN GOVERNMENT TO REVOKE OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING EXPLORATION LICENSES AND PERMANENTLY BAN OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING ACTIVITIES IN THE BAHAMAS; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Cutler Bay (the “Town”) has a long history of environmental social responsibility and activism, as a community and as a municipal government; and

**WHEREAS**, as a leader in the State of Florida (the “State”) for promoting environmental stewardship, the Town has adopted various Resolutions in efforts to protect the natural environment of the planet and of this community, and conserve natural resources by minimizing its impact on said environment and resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bahamas Petroleum Company (“BPC”) has been granted an offshore oil drilling exploration license by the Bahamian government that allows them to construct exploratory offshore oil drilling wells 150 miles off the coast of Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, exploratory and commercial drilling, extraction, and transportation of offshore oil and gas resources by BPC poses a significant risk of oil spills and chronic leakage that may adversely impact the Bahamas and coastal communities in the Caribbean and Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, as one of the various coastal communities in South Florida, the Town is committed to environmental conscientiousness and supports all measures to reduce/ eliminate a possible devastation of marine habitats caused by offshore drilling oil spills originating in the Bahamas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town urges the Bahamian government to revoke offshore oil drilling exploration licenses and to permanently ban offshore oil drilling activities in the Bahamas, and further urges Miami-Dade County and the State to oppose such offshore oil drilling and work with the Bahamian government in such efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council finds that the adoption of this Resolution is in the best interest and welfare of the residents of the Town.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:**

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

**Section 2. Urging.** The Town Council urges the Bahamian government to revoke offshore oil drilling exploration licenses issued to the BPC, and to permanently ban all offshore oil drilling activities in the Bahamas. The Town Council furthermore urges Miami-Dade County and the State to oppose such offshore oil drilling and work with the Bahamian government.

**Section 3. Transmittal.** The Town Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Bahamian Prime Minister Hubert Minnis and Bahamian Ambassador to the U.S. Sidney S. Collie, the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners, Governor Ron DeSantis, and the Miami-Dade County League of Cities.

**Section 4. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_ day of January, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
TIM MEERBOTT  
Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
DEBRA E. EASTMAN, MMC  
Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE  
SOLE USE OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
WEISS SEROTA HELFMAN  
COLE & BIERMAN, P.L.  
Town Attorney

Moved By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Seconded By: \_\_\_\_\_

FINAL VOTE AT ADOPTION:

Mayor Tim Meerbott \_\_\_\_\_

Vice Mayor Michael P. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_

Council Member Robert “BJ” Duncan \_\_\_\_\_

Council Member Suzy Lord \_\_\_\_\_

Council Member Roger Coriat \_\_\_\_\_