



1920 Meridian Ave, Miami Beach, FL33139

January 12, 2018

Miami Beach City Hall
1700 Convention Center Dr
Miami Beach, FL 33139

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

WHEREAS, the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce supported the 2016 removal of the Mid- and South Atlantic areas from offshore drilling and exploration as a reasonable step to protect Florida's coast from potential adverse economic impacts on its tourism business and property values;

WHEREAS, in the intervening years, the reasons for continuing the current restrictions have only been heightened and reinforced;

WHEREAS, there are no apparent changes in international or domestic concerns that would justify removing the current restrictions which protect Florida's coast and other Atlantic coastal communities from offshore drilling and exploration;

WHEREAS, without reasoned explanation the Department of Interior has released a proposed plan that would permit offshore drilling for oil along any coastline of the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce goes on record as opposing the current Department of Interior plan to permit offshore drilling for oil as well as seismic testing along the Atlantic coastline and calls upon the Florida Congressional Delegation to oppose efforts by the Department of Interior to alter the current moratorium on offshore drilling by taking steps to encourage the Department to reconsider its position, including but not limited to withholding approval for a budget for the Department.

Sincerely,

Jerry Libbin
President & CEO
Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce

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