

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-162

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COCONUT CREEK, 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 MIRAMAR'S CITY LIMITS, AND SUPPORTING EFFORTS OPPOSING EXTREME WELL STIMULATION, HYDRAULIC FRACTURING, ACID FRACTURING, AND ANY FORM OF EXTREME WELL STIMULATION FOR PURPOSES OF RESOURCE EXTRACTION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City 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 city limits 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 many residents of Broward County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, the City, 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 City Commission deems it to be in the best interest of the residents of the City of Coconut Creek to present its vehement opposition to the Kanter oil drilling permit application and resultant operations, and seeks to support the efforts made by the City of Miramar in opposition to Kanter’s application as the municipality closest to the location of the proposed drilling and the area most likely to suffer substantial adverse impacts associated with the exploratory oil drilling sought by Kantor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COCONUT CREEK, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the foregoing “**WHEREAS**” clauses are ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are made a specific part of this Resolution.

Section 2: That it 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 city limits, and urges Broward County and all municipalities in Broward County to consider similar legislation opposing the efforts of Kanter.

Section 3: The City hereby opposes extreme well stimulation, hydraulic fracturing, acid fracturing, and any form of extreme well stimulation for purposes of resource extraction.

Section 4: The City Attorney is hereby authorized to support all Broward County and municipal efforts in opposition to the Kanter application.

Section 5: The City Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Resolution to Broward County, all cities within Broward County, the Broward County League of Cities, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Section 6: This Resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

Adopted this 23rd day of July, 2015.

Rebecca A. Tooley, Mayor

Attest:

Leslie Wallace May, MMC
City Clerk

Tooley Aye
Belvedere Aye
Sarbone Aye
Welch Aye
Rydell Aye