



Reply to: Alice Fredericks
Chair, Legislative Committee
MCCMC Tiburon Town Hall
1505 Tiburon Blvd

March 29, 2018

The Honorable Al Muratsuchi
Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
State Capitol, Room 2179
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1775 (Muratsuchi) State Lands: Leasing: Oil and Gas.
Notice of SUPPORT (as Introduced 1/4/18)**

Dear Assembly Member Muratsuchi,

The Marin County Council of Mayors and Councilmembers (MCCMC) is pleased to support AB 1775, which would prohibit expanded offshore oil and natural gas production off the California coast. AB 1775 would prohibit the State Lands Commission (SLC) or local trustees from entering into new lease agreements, or renewing, expanding, or modifying existing agreements that would result in increased oil or natural gas from federal waters.

In early January, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke released a draft five-year plan for the National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program (National OCS Program). The draft proposed program for 2019-2024 includes 47 new potential leases, including six in California.

Opening waters off the California coast to new offshore oil and natural gas exploration and production would impose substantial new costs to coastal cities. Coastal cities near the new offshore site may be impacted by potential needs for new facilities and services needed to support offshore development activities, as well as possible debris and other litter that may wash up on beaches. Environmental impacts from these actions could potentially be harmful to the habitat and local wildlife.

Additionally, if a spill were to occur off the California coast, the financial impacts to the state's coastal cities would be substantial. A spill would require clean up and disaster relief, as well as put potential strains on tourism, an industry on which many cities rely.

MCCMC supports AB 1775 because it protects cities and the environment from the deleterious impacts of increasing the numbers of extraction leases.

Respectfully,

Alice Fredericks, Chair
Legislative Committee
Marin County Council of Mayors and Councilmembers

cc:

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