

RESOLUTION NO. R-17-006

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRENHAM, TEXAS OPPOSING THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT'S (BLM'S) DECISION TO LEASE LAND FOR OIL AND GAS DRILLING AND PRODUCTION IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, AT AND AROUND LAKE SOMERVILLE

WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of Land Management ("BLM") plans to auction off leases on 1,400 acres of federal land around Lake Somerville for oil and gas drilling and production; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the importance of oil and gas drilling and production activities to the economy of the State of Texas, but believes that the proposed activities must be assessed in relationship to other important Texas values such as protection of clean drinking water supplies; and

WHEREAS, Lake Somerville is the sole source of water for the City of Brenham, Texas and the loss or contamination of this fresh water supply would be catastrophic for the residents, businesses, schools, nursing homes, and the only hospital in Brenham and Washington County; and

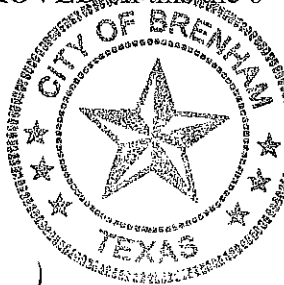
WHEREAS, oil and gas drilling and production operations in, under, and around Lake Somerville could possibly create a significant risk of contaminating the Lake Somerville water supply; and

WHEREAS, the risks of contaminating and damaging the water supply of cities like Brenham is too great to allow the lease of land for oil and gas drilling in, under, or around major drinking water supplies such as Lake Somerville.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRENHAM, TEXAS, THAT:

The City Council hereby opposes the leasing of land by the BLM for oil and gas drilling and production operations at and around Lake Somerville and respectfully requests that the BLM cancel the auction of these leases to protect our community's critical drinking water supply.

PASSED AND APPROVED on this the 6th day of April, 2017.



Milton Y. Tate, Jr.
Milton Y. Tate, Jr.
Mayor

ATTEST:

Jeanne Bellinger
Jeanne Bellinger, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary