

CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM
Office of the City Manager

DATE: August 20, 2015 **FILE:** CM-15-044

TO: Mayor, Vice Mayor and City Commissioners

VIA: Dr. Wazir Ishamel, City Manager

FROM: Lorie Mertens-Black, Chief Civic Affairs Officer
Lindsey Nieratka, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator *LNW*

SUBJECT: Opposition to Kanter Real Estate, LLC's Permit to Drill For Oil in Broward County

Issue:

Opposition to Kanter Real Estate, LLC's Permit to Drill For Oil in Broward County.

Explanation:

- The City of Hollywood passed a resolution in support of banning hydraulic fracturing in the State of Florida. It logically follows that the City opposes a permit which could reasonably lead to hydraulic fracturing in the future.
- The passing of Amendment 1 by over 75% of the voting public demonstrates that Florida citizens place water as a high priority in which they are willing to invest. Oil exploration and subsequent extraction comes with risks to the water supply in terms of both overuse and contamination^{1,2}. Current state law does not provide sufficient oversight to protect against these risks particularly from newer techniques such as hydraulic fracturing³.
- The proposed activities are not compliant with the Broward County land use designations and zoning. The land in question has a land use designation of "Conservation - Reserve Water Supply Areas" and the zoning is "Conservation - 1, Conservation District-Water Supply Areas⁴."
- The proposed drilling site is within a water conservation area and contains habitat for federal and state listed species including the Federally Endangered Florida Panther, Everglades Snail Kite, and Florida Bonneted Bat⁴.
- Nature based tourism brings revenue into the region. In Broward County in 2014, 14 million travelers spent \$11.4 billion.
- In the 2011-2012 fiscal year the State spent over \$550 million on the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) and CERP related projects⁵. The proposed project may not be compatible with restoration goals as a result of disturbed flow, water levels, and potential contamination risks.

For more information:

1. USGS water use study: Gallegos, T. J., B. A. Varela, S. S. Haines, and M. A. Engle (2015), Hydraulic fracturing water use variability in the United States and potential environmental implications, Water Resour. Res., 51, doi:10.1002/2015WR017278.

2. EPA's Study of Hydraulic Fracturing for Oil and Gas and Its Potential Impact on Drinking Water Resources. <http://www2.epa.gov/hfstudy>
3. State law: The Everglades Coalition resolution to support new state legislation to improve regulatory oversight and enforcement of oil drilling activities in Florida. ([http://www.evergladescoalition.org/PDF/EVCO%20Resolution OilDrilling Nov102014.pdf](http://www.evergladescoalition.org/PDF/EVCO%20Resolution%20OilDrilling%20Nov102014.pdf)) and The Conservancy of Southwest Florida statement on oil legislation reform. (<https://www.conservancy.org/oil>)
4. Kanter Real Estate Permit Application and Florida DEP Request for Additional Information. http://www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/news/2015/files/1366_RAI.pdf
5. CERP cross cut budget, fiscal year 2012.

Recommendation:

It is the recommendation of the Environmental Sustainability Coordinator that the City of Hollywood City Commission oppose the permit and application by Kanter Real Estate, LLC for oil drilling in Broward County.