CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-114

INTRODUCED BY:

A RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES CALLING FOR A MORATORIUM ON OIL AND GAS DRILLING IN THE GALISTEO BASIN IN ORDER TO ALLOW APPROPRIATE STUDY AND CONSULTATION ABOUT GOVERNMENTAL ACTION IN THIS AREA.

WHEREAS, Tecton Corporation has proposed to begin drilling test wells for the presence of oil and gas in the Galisteo Basin, using a method known as “hydraulic fracturing”; and

WHEREAS, such drilling has the potential to create significant environmental effects, including contamination of the ground water, ground and air pollution, significant water use, and destruction of the surrounding natural environment; and

WHEREAS, the potential effects of such drilling may endanger the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of Santa Fe County and substantially interfere with their overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, State Representative Peter Wirth has proposed a six month moratorium on drilling in this area so that the potential environmental effects can be studied, evaluated, and
mitigated; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County has proposed a similar three month moratorium during which Santa Fe County will study and evaluate its current law on mining and drilling.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE that the Governing Body of the City of Santa Fe applauds and supports the efforts of Representative Wirth and the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County in delaying the issuance of a drilling permit in this case until county and state staff and the public have had sufficient time to study and evaluate Tecton’s application for a drilling permit and, during that delay, to consider how county and state laws may be amended to best protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of Santa Fe County,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Governing Body requests that both the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County and the government of the State of New Mexico extend these moratoria if it is necessary to develop appropriate laws and policies governing this type of drilling.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 12th day of December, 2007.

DAVID COSS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

YOYANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

FRANK D. KATZ, CITY ATTORNEY