



FOR RELEASE: MONDAY MORNING,  
FEBRUARY 17, 1975

CONTACT: STEPHEN A. SALMORE

RELEASE #14-7

THE EAGLETON INSTITUTE OF POLITICS  
WOOD LAWN • NEILSON CAMPUS • NEW BRUNSWICK • NEW JERSEY 08901 • 201/828-2210

A solid majority of New Jerseyans would permit oil drilling in the state's coastal waters as means of dealing with the present energy crisis. The New Jersey Poll, conducted by the Eagleton Institute of Rutgers University, finds that 60 percent favor exploratory oil drilling off the New Jersey shore while 32 percent oppose it. Eight percent were undecided.

Dr. Stephen A. Salmore, Director of the New Jersey Poll, explained that the statewide sample of 1005 respondents was first asked if they were in favor of increasing off shore oil drilling as one measure to help increase domestic supplies of energy. By 67 percent to 26 percent most endorsed such a policy. Moreover, when asked specifically about drilling off the New Jersey shore, the percent in favor declined only slightly.

"These results indicate that New Jerseyans favor increasing domestic production of oil, even if it means drilling in their own backyard," Salmore said. Governor Byrne has actively worked with other eastern governors in opposing federal attempts to spur oil drilling off the New Jersey shore. The prospect of ocean oil drilling has also generated extensive opposition from environmental groups.

Support for off shore oil drilling is quite widespread. Even respondents who live along the Atlantic Coast or Delaware Bay favor it by 59 percent to 34 percent. Those groups who are least enthusiastic about such oil drilling are those that have been identified with environmental causes. Women favor off shore oil exploration by only 49 percent to 40 percent while men support it by a much wider 72 percent to 23 percent.

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Liberals are in favor by 57 percent to 36 percent while conservatives register a more enthusiastic 65 percent in favor and 28 percent opposed. Respondents under 30 favor shore oil drilling by a narrow margin of 54 percent to 42 percent. The margin among respondents over 50 is a much wider 64 percent to 26 percent.

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"Plans are also being made to drill for oil off the New Jersey shore. Would you be in favor of off shore oil drilling in the waters around New Jersey?"

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
All Respondents	60%	32%	8%
Democrats	63	30	7
Independents	61	32	8
Republicans	60	34	6
Liberal	57	36	6
Conservative	65	28	8
Man	72	23	5
Woman	49	40	11
18-29	54	42	4
30-49	61	30	9
50+	64	26	10
White	61	32	7
Non-White	52	32	16
Under \$10,000	63	28	9
\$10,000-\$15,000	56	35	9
Over \$15,000	64	30	5
Less than High School	65	25	10
High School Complete	60	34	6
More than High School	56	36	8

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The Fourteenth New Jersey Poll was conducted by telephone from the Eagleton Institute of Politics in New Brunswick, N.J. between Jan. 6 and 16. A scientifically selected random sample of 1005 N.J. residents 18 years of age or older was interviewed.



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TO: POLITICAL REPORTERS

FROM: STEPHEN A. SALMORE

SUBJECT: THE NEW JERSEY POLL, RELEASE #14-7, MONDAY MORNING, FEB. 17, 1975

The questions used in this release are as follows.

"A number of suggestions have been made about how we can help solve our energy problems. I am going to read you a list of these suggestions. For each one, could you tell me whether you favor or oppose it. Do you favor or oppose.... increasing off shore drilling for oil?"

Favor	67%
Oppose	26
Don't Know	7

Plans are also being made to drill for oil off the New Jersey shore. Would you be in favor of off shore oil drilling in the waters around New Jersey?"

Yes	60%
No	32
Don't know	8

THE PUBLIC... THE STATE OF TEXAS...  
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TOP... MILITARY... THE STATE OF TEXAS...

FORM... MILITARY... THE STATE OF TEXAS...

STATE... MILITARY... THE STATE OF TEXAS...

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