

COURT FILE NUMBER KB-RG - 0848 of 2023

COURT OF KING'S BENCH FOR SASKATCHEWAN

JUDICIAL CENTRE REGINA

APPLICANTS SABRINA DYKSTRA, JILL FORRESTER, RYAN HEISE,  
KAYLA HOPKINS, LYNN OLIPHANT, HAROLD PEXA,  
AMY SNIDER, and CLIMATE JUSTICE SASKATOON  
ORGANIZATION INC.

RESPONDENTS SASKATCHEWAN POWER CORPORATION, CROWN  
INVESTMENTS CORPORATION OF SASKATCHEWAN,  
and THE GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN

### AFFIDAVIT

#### AFFIDAVIT OF APPLICANT JILL FORRESTER

I, JILL FORRESTER, of the City of REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, MAKE OATH AND SAY (or AFFIRM):

1. I have personal knowledge of the statements and facts deposed to in this Affidavit, except where stated to be on information learned from someone else, and where so stated, I verily believe the information to be true.
2. I am 77 years old, and I currently reside in the City of Regina, Saskatchewan.
3. I have lived in Saskatchewan for most of my life, growing up in Melville, and living for a time in Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, and Big River. I have lived at my present home in Regina for 55 years. Our family also has a cabin in the Qu'Appelle valley which has been a destination for rest and rejuvenation in nature together with family since I was 3 months old, in 1945.
4. My family members, all living in Regina, include two daughters, four grandchildren and their partners, as well as a sister.
5. I am currently retired from salaried work and was employed in a variety of occupations over the course of my life, including: as a registered nurse, a counselor, and later as an administrator in a shelter for abused women and children. I have also worked on various contracts in the field of natural resources.
6. For 30 years I have been following the development of climate change, global warming, species decline and extinction, and more recently I have observed examples of increasing climate instability as

demonstrated by recent events such as fires, flooding, hurricanes, and drought on a scale I have never before experienced. I understand that weather is variable, but I am also aware that these disasters are not 'natural' because dangerous climate change has already increased the intensity and probability of this extreme weather. I accept the fact that the climate crisis is caused by our overuse and misuse of the earth's resources, primarily fossil fuels. It is regrettable to me that humanity fails to view the Earth as our life support system but is instead focused on mindless exploitation of resources and growth of human enterprise without regard for the consequences on others.

7. I have been struggling to maintain optimism that we can correct the situation and reverse the steady and deadly damage that is being done to our environment, when the Saskatchewan government, the Crown Investment Corporation, and SaskPower continue to increase the severity of the crisis by building more fossil fuel-based infrastructure.

8. As the climate emergency increases in severity, so has the stress on my mental health. For the first time in my life, I am now taking antidepressant medication and seeking support for my ecoanxiety. I feel an increasing sense of dread, despair, and grief which have been at times debilitating. More and more often my thoughts of fear, uncertainty, and profound grief are inescapable when I think of how dangerous climate change will affect the future lives of my grandchildren. Many studies are showing that levels of despair and depression are rising in young people, as they contemplate what the future holds for them if we do not make big changes in the way we treat the earth. I see those same impacts on my own family members just as I experience ecoanxiety myself.

9. My family and I have been naturalists since our youth. My brother went on to become an ornithologist and later an entomologist. I enjoy spending time in nature and I have completed many environmental contracts in the past as well.

10. I typically spend much of my time in the summer at our family cabin at Crooked Lake in the eastern Qu'Appelle valley. I have spent the last 10 summers watching species decline and disappear, as waterfowl and other water loving birds go from numerous to absent as the water quality degrades. In effect, it feels as though I am watching the ecosystem die. It breaks my heart. My deep concern is affecting choices that I am making in my own life.

11. As I have learned about the negative impact of air travel, I have curtailed my air travel and I no longer use it for pleasure, such as visiting friends in different parts of the country. I now only travel by air in times of family emergencies. This is a source of grief for me, as I used to visit my oldest and dearest friend in Nanaimo at least two, sometimes three times a year. I can no longer justify doing that at the expense of my grandchildren's future. And I grieve the loss of in person connection with my dear friends.

12. I constantly feel a sense of moral distress. Feelings of fatigue, anxiety, and depression.
13. The sense that the environment is being destroyed by forces that I have no control over, such as corporate greed, and governments such as our provincial one, that support this agenda. Unlimited growth for profit is unsustainable, it's just common sense, and yet it goes ahead with the support of our current government. Worse yet, at SaskPower the ambition to expand fossil fuel electricity generation proceeds under the direction of our Saskatchewan government. It feels like my government is forcing me to cause climate change because I have no choice but to use electricity from SaskPower.
14. Our provincial government could be doing so much more to reduce emissions and commit to making Saskatchewan carbon neutral. I hope the court will hear this application because we need to pause and carefully consider how our decisions today contribute to dangerous climate change and whether those decisions impact our Charter rights now and the rights of my grandchildren. I feel paralysed at times by my ecoanxiety and solastalgia.
15. I am motivated to participate in this court action because I think it is helpful to carefully consider whether our government action (or lack of action) aligns with our Charter rights. I look forward to the court's clarification of whether ongoing business as usual and our government's treatment of the environment is reasonable or not.
16. I make this Affidavit in support of the Originating Application along with the other co-applicants, anticipated to be filed in early 2023, and for no unlawful purpose.

SWORN (OR AFFIRMED) BEFORE ME  
at, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan,  
this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March,  
2023.

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Commissioner for Oaths  
for Saskatchewan  
Being a Solicitor

*Remotely via  
electronic  
means.*

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(signature)