

Media Release:

Citizens file application to halt SaskPower's expansion of gas fired generation

Saskatoon, SK. April 14, 2023 - Saskatchewan Power Corporation, Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan, and the Government of Saskatchewan will be challenged in court by Saskatchewan citizens who are deeply concerned about the impacts of dangerous climate change. Climate Justice Saskatoon and seven Saskatchewan residents, aged 15 to 80, filed an application at the Court of King's Bench on March 31, 2023, claiming that government action to expand gas-fired electricity generation violates our Charter rights to life, security of person, and equality.

SaskPower is currently building a new gas-fired electricity plant near Moose Jaw and is planning to build another near Lanigan, SK. The current provincial *Management and Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Regulations* permit SaskPower to increase its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, thereby accelerating dangerous climate change. Saskatchewan has the highest GHG emissions per capita in Canada and according to the Supreme Court of Canada and our Saskatchewan Court of Appeals, we face an existential threat to the future of all life on this planet caused by ongoing GHG emissions.

Dangerous climate change is upon us and is made worse by these inexcusable actions by our government and SaskPower. The applicants argue our Charter rights are violated and that the government has a duty to mitigate its emissions. The applicants are asking the Court to order SaskPower to set a reasonable target to decarbonize and achieve Net-zero emissions as soon as possible.

This Court application should provide helpful clarification for all parties and spur important dialogue about our shared power future.

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