

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 RYAN HEISE

I, RYAN HEISE, of the City of SASKATOON, 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. My full name is Ryan Karl Heise. I am 31 years old, and I currently reside on the west side of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. I have lived in this area for approximately 2 years.
3. I was born in Saskatchewan and have lived in the province of Saskatchewan for about 18 years (most of my life).
4. I am a man of Métis ancestry and the father of 3 children now aged 12, 9, and 6 years old respectively.
5. I enjoy spending time in nature and routinely go camping and hiking every summer.

6. I am presently employed and working as a Registry Liaison in Saskatoon, SK.

7. I support this court application because I am really concerned for the future of my children, and I know that dangerous climate change will affect them deeply. I feel compelled to do whatever I can to mitigate climate change.

8. I know that human activities burning coal, oil, and fossil gas are the main causes of dangerous climate change. I know that we need to transition our economy and way of life to replace fossil energy with clean energy to achieve net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as quickly as possible. Runaway climate change is an existential threat to humanity, and I worry that every new fossil energy project really means an incrementally worse future for myself and my children.

9. I am very worried for my children's future. I am worried they will not survive the outcomes of dangerous climate change, such as the possibility of famines and extreme weather events if we continue to pollute our atmosphere with GHGs and cause climate change to intensify. This weighs very heavily on me, and it's what drives me to try and do whatever I can to prevent it.

10. To reduce my impact on the environment, I no longer travel by airplane. I have been buying less meat as well, as these are two effective ways to reduce GHG emissions and prevent further harm. I also had a vasectomy because I think it is highly irresponsible to bring more people into a world that is on the brink of collapse due to the climate crisis.

11. My worry about dangerous climate change and human impacts to our common environment causes me stress and depression. I believe these symptoms of stress and depression are caused by my awareness of the dangerous climate change reality. These symptoms affect my daily life and work at times and cause me to behave in a manner that is out of character for a few days. These symptoms cause me to feel sadness, worry, and anger. These symptoms impact my ability to work on occasion when I am feeling particularly hopeless about the future. My mood does drop into a depression of varying lengths. In those times, my eating habits are affected as I experience a loss of appetite.

12. Climate change causes me anxiety because of the damage that is being done to our planet. I am worried about what damage will follow, and that we may already be too late to prevent that damage. I am worried about what struggles and hardships my children will face,

that I will face, and that humanity will collectively face because of dangerous climate change. I am worried about starving to death. I am worried about the millions who will lose their homes. I am worried about the chaos that will result from the desperation of those trying to survive. I am worried that no place on Earth will be spared from these impacts. It seems to me that we should all be focused on prevention and therefore immediately stop investing in new oil and gas projects.

13. My mental health has suffered with my worry for the future and the future of my children. I find it hard to be hopeful for a good future for my kids when I observe oil and gas companies, banks, and our governments continuing to invest and build new fossil fuel projects that are making the climate crisis worse.

14. I have found that getting involved with environmental groups and working to create awareness of the problem and taking action to reduce GHG emissions helps my mental health, but because one can observe burning of fossil fuels everywhere, everyday, my mind is always occupied with worry and dread. I am currently considering an occupation change so that I can work in a manner that helps protect our environment. I feel that I must do whatever I can to prevent dangerous climate change. Taking action to achieve that goal does help distract me from my depression and dread about the climate crisis.

15. I am frustrated by the lack of clear response to reduce emissions in my province of Saskatchewan. I think that the government of Saskatchewan cares very little for its people. If the government cared about its people, they would care about our future as well. Caring about our future requires a commitment to mitigate the impacts of climate change. When I think of my future, I feel unsafe because I perceive our government of Saskatchewan refusing to address the problem. I observe that SaskPower and the government of Saskatchewan continue to build and expand fossil fuel infrastructure like fossil gas fired power plants.

16. I feel it is unreasonable for the government of Saskatchewan and its crown corporation SaskPower to continue to build fossil fuel based electrical generation given what we now know about dangerous climate change and its causes. To demonstrate commitment to addressing climate change, our provincial government and SaskPower need to prepare a plan to achieve net-zero GHG emissions complete with a timeline to reach interim goals because the transition is a big job, but we need to start now.

17. I believe that this application serves an important public service to clarify how our Charter of Rights and Freedoms applies to government action that makes the problem of dangerous climate change worse.

18. I make this Affidavit in support of this Originating Application along with the other co-applicants, anticipated to be filed early 2023, and for no unlawful purpose.

SWORN (OR AFFIRMED) BEFORE ME

at, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan,

this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March,

2023.



Commissioner for Oaths  
for Saskatchewan

*Being a Solicitor*

  
(signature)