



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

### **Appeal Court Upholds Swift Current's Law Suit Against SaskPower**

The Saskatchewan Court of Appeal has cleared the way for the City of Swift Current's lawsuit against SaskPower to proceed.

The suit, launched in April 2005, had been tied up in the appeal process as SaskPower sought to have the City's claim struck.

In a unanimous decision, the court ruled that Swift Current's claims of misfeasance in a public office, unjust enrichment, breach of fiduciary duty, unlawful interference with economic interests and breach of contract can proceed.

"The bottom line for Swift Current taxpayers is that we can move to the next step and defend our utility from SaskPower's rate setting practices. We hope SaskPower is now through with all the legal wrangling and we can move forward with the case," said Swift Current Mayor Sandy Larson.

The City's Statement of Claim alleges that for nearly a decade, SaskPower has been unlawfully engaging in systematic discriminatory practices. Swift Current owns the power utility in the city and purchases power in bulk from SaskPower who is, in effect, a monopoly supplier. Without control over the rates, the City is financially impacted when the difference between the wholesale rate and the retail rate is manipulated.

"The rate setting practices that we are suing over continue to have a negative impact on this City as we speak. That puts pressure on Swift Current taxpayers, and it reduces the value of our public utility. We want to get this case in front of a judge, get the facts out in the open and get this matter resolved," said City Commissioner Matt Noble.

The Saskatchewan Court of Appeal decision and more background information are available in the Light and Power section of [www.swiftcurrent.ca](http://www.swiftcurrent.ca). The decision also upheld an earlier ruling that dropped the Government and the Crown Investments Corporation as defendants.

**For more information or to schedule an interview:  
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