

TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION, NO. 395, Applicant in LRB 073-25 / Respondent in LRB 079-25 v GFL Environmental SFS Inc., Respondent in LRB 073-25 / Applicant in LRB 079-25

LRB File Nos. 073-25 & 079-25; June 25, 2025

Vice-Chairperson, Carol L. Kraft (sitting alone pursuant to subsection 6-95(3) of *The Saskatchewan Employment Act*)

Citation: Teamsters v GFL Environmental SFS Inc., 2025 SKLRB 28

Counsel for the Applicant, Teamsters Local Union, No. 395: Heather Robertson

Counsel for the Respondent, GFL Environmental SFS Inc.: Christopher Lane, K.C.

The Saskatchewan Labour Relations Board ordered that two related applications – one by Teamsters Local Union, No. 395 for certification of a northern bargaining unit, and one by GFL Environmental SFS Inc. to amend an existing southern unit – be heard together

The Board found that the applications involved overlapping legal and factual issues, and that a joint hearing would promote fairness, efficiency, and consistency

REASONS FOR DECISION

Background:

[1] Carol L. Kraft, Vice-Chairperson: Teamsters Local Union, No. 395 filed an application in LRB File No. 073-25 seeking certification for a bargaining unit described as:

All employees employed by GFL Environmental SFS Inc. in Saskatchewan, north of the 51st parallel, except the manager, assistant manager, operations supervisor, sales and office.

- [2] GFL Environmental SFS Inc., in LRB File No. 079-25, applied to amend an existing certification order dated August 12, 2022, which currently defines a bargaining unit for employees south of the 51st parallel. GFL seeks to revise the unit description to reflect operational realignments, particularly the integration of Yorkton operations into the Regina-based structure.
- [3] On June 3, 2025, the Board ordered that both applications be heard together. Counsel for the Union requested written reasons for this procedural decision.

Reasons:

Board's Discretion and Procedural Authority

[4] The Board exercises broad discretion under Section 6-103(2)(a) of *The Saskatchewan Employment Act* (SEA) to manage its own processes, including the conduct of hearings. This discretion is exercised in accordance with principles of natural justice and procedural fairness.

Efficiency and Fairness

[5] The Board is committed to resolving labour relations matters in a timely and efficient manner. Hearing these applications together avoids duplication of evidence and argument, conserves Board resources, and minimizes delay for the parties involved.

Overlapping Factual and Legal Issues

- [6] The applications in LRB File Nos. 073-25 and 079-25 are factually and legally intertwined:
 - a) Both concern the appropriate scope and structure of bargaining units within GFL's Saskatchewan operations.
 - b) GFL's reply in LRB 073-25 mirrors its submissions in LRB 079-25, particularly regarding the operational realignment of Yorkton and its integration with Regina and Moose Jaw.
 - c) The outcome of one application may directly impact the other, particularly in determining the appropriate bargaining unit and representation rights.

Avoiding Prejudice and Ensuring Consistency

[7] Hearing the matters together ensures that the Board considers all relevant facts and submissions in a coherent and consistent manner. This approach reduces the risk of inconsistent findings and ensures that all parties are afforded a full and fair opportunity to be heard on interrelated matters.

Balancing Interests

[8] The Board has weighed the interests of administrative efficiency against the need for procedural fairness. In this case, the balance clearly favours a joint hearing, which will allow for a more comprehensive and informed adjudication of the issues.

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Conclusion:

[9] For the foregoing reasons, the Board determined that it is appropriate and necessary to hear LRB File Nos. 073-25 and 079-25 together. This approach promotes procedural fairness, efficiency, and consistency in the resolution of the parties' disputes.

DATED at Regina, Saskatchewan, this 25th day of June, 2025.

LABOUR RELATIONS BOARD

Carol L. Kraft Vice-Chairperson