Party: Claimant

Witness: John Michael Armstrong

Number: Sixth Exhibit: UKOP14

Dated: 4 November 2024

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

Claim No. PT-2022-000303

**BUSINESS AND PROPERTY COURTS OF ENGLAND AND WALES** 

**CHANCERY DIVISION** 

BETWEEN

(1) UNITED KINGDOM OIL PIPELINES LIMITED

(2) WEST LONDON PIPELINE AND STORAGE LIMITED

Claimants / Applicants

and

(1) PERSONS UNKNOWN ENTERING OR REMAINING WITHOUT CONSENT, AND IN CONNECTION WITH OR AFFILIATED TO THE EXTINCTION REBELLION CAMPAIGN OR THE JUST STOP OIL CAMPAIGN, ON LAND AND BUILDINGS AT AND COMPRISING PART OF (A) THE BUNCEFIELD OIL TERMINAL, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HERTFORDSHIRE (SHOWN FOR IDENTIFICATION SHADED RED ON THE ATTACHED SITE 1 PLAN) (B) THE KINGSBURY OIL TERMINAL, KINGSBURY, WARWICKSHIRE (SHOWN FOR IDENTIFICATION SHADED RED ON THE ATTACHED SITE 2 PLAN)

First Defendant / Respondent

(2) PERSONS UNKNOWN WITHOUT CONSENT, AND IN CONNECTION WITH OR AFFILIATED TO THE EXTINCTION REBELLION CAMPAIGN OR THE JUST STOP OIL CAMPAIGN, OBSTRUCTING OR INTERFERING WITH THE FIRST CLAIMANT'S ACCESS OVER PRIVATE ACCESS ROADS ADJACENT TO (A) THE BUNCEFIELD OIL TERMINAL, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HERTFORDSHIRE (SHOWN FOR IDENTIFICATION SHADED BLUE ON THE ATTACHED SITE 1 PLAN) (B) THE KINGSBURY OIL TERMINAL, KINGSBURY, WARWICKSHIRE (SHOWN FOR IDENTIFICATION SHADED BLUE ON THE ATTACHED SITE 2 PLAN)

Second De	fendant / Respondent
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SIXTH WITNESS STATEMENT OF	
JOHN MICHAEL ARMSTRONG	

124581424 v1

I, John Michael Armstrong, of 5-7 Alexandra Road, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, will say as follows:

- I currently act as the Director and General Manager of British Pipeline Agency Limited ("BPA") and have held this role since 1 September 2021. I have worked for BPA since July 2020 and, prior to becoming a Director and General Manager, I was the Chief Operating Officer of BPA. Prior to that, I enjoyed senior roles across distributed energy, power generation and engineering safety.
- 2. BPA is the UK's leading provider of engineering and operational services to the oil and gas pipeline sector. It has operated UK onshore pipelines and terminal facilities for over 50 years, currently managing over 1,000km of fuel pipes in the UK.
- 3. BPA acts as agent for the First Claimant United Kingdom Oil Pipelines Limited ("**UKOP**") and the Second Claimant West London Pipeline and Storage Limited ("**WLPSL**"), and it operates and maintains their UK based assets.
- 4. I am duly authorised to make this witness statement on behalf of the Claimants.
- 5. I make this statement from facts within my own knowledge, which I believe to be true. Where I refer to matters not within my knowledge, I confirm that they are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, and I state the source of the information.
- 6. Produced and shown to me is a bundle of documents containing exhibit "**UKOP14**". Unless otherwise stated, page references in this witness statement refer to pages in that exhibit.
- 7. Unless otherwise stated, in this statement I adopt the definitions set out in my first witness statement dated 7 April 2022.

#### **CURRENT POSITION**

- 8. On 12 April 2022 Peter Knox QC (sitting as a Judge of the Chancery Division) granted an interim injunction to restrain the Defendants from trespassing, causing damage or removing equipment from the Sites and / or obstructing or otherwise interfering with the First Claimant's access over private access roads at the Sites (the "Injunction"). On 21 April 2022, the Injunction was extended until 20 April 2023 (together, the "April 2022 Orders").
- On 21 April 2023, the Injunction was extended by order of The Honourable Mr Justice Rajah until 20 October 2023, final determination of the claim or further claim in the interim (the "April 2023 Order"). On 6 October 2023, Mr Simon Gleeson (sitting as a Judge of the Chancery Division) granted an order for final injunctive relief (the "Order").
- 10. I make this further statement in connection with the annual review hearing of the final injunction granted by the Order.
- 11. For the reasons I refer to below, the Claimants consider that the Order should remain in place until 23:59 hrs on 20 October 2028, subject to the annual reviews provided for at paragraph 12 of the Order.
- 12. This sixth witness statement supplements:
  - (a) my first witness statement dated 7 April 2022 ("First Witness Statement");
  - (b) my second witness statement dated 14 April 2022 ("Second Witness Statement");
  - (c) my third witness statement dated 5 April 2023 ("Third Witness Statement");
  - (d) my fourth witness statement dated 6 July 2023 ("Fourth Witness Statement"); and

- (e) my fifth witness statement dated 22 September 2023 ("Fifth Witness Statement") together my "Previous Witness Statements".
- 13. The purpose of this sixth witness statement is to provide the Court with an update in respect of relevant events following the grant of the Order and since my Fifth Witness Statement and, ultimately, demonstrate the continuing threat posed by the Defendants. It therefore addresses:
  - (a) evidence of direct action which has occurred in the vicinity of Site 1 and Site 2;
  - (b) evidence of direct action targeted at other operators; and
  - (c) evidence of direct action by Just Stop Oil and Extinction Rebellion, including where such action has targeted other organisations affiliated with the oil and gas sector.
- 14. I also address, at paragraphs 65 to 74 of this statement, the application made by the Claimants on 4 November 2024 to vary the service requirements in the Order (the "Application") and the basis upon which that Application has been made.

## DIRECT ACTION IN THE VICINITY OF SITE 1 AND SITE 2

- 15. In my First Witness Statement and Second Witness Statement, I addressed in detail the direct action suffered by the Claimants in respect of Site 1 and the direct action targeted at the operations of the Claimants in close proximity to Site 1 and Site 2. This direct action formed the basis for the Claimants seeking an initial interim order for pre-emptive injunctive relief.
- 16. In my Third Witness Statement, I addressed the further incidents of direct action in close proximity to Site 2 since the April 2022 Orders.
- 17. There has been no further direct action at, or in the vicinity of, Site 1 and Site 2 since the date of my Third Witness Statement. However, I refer to paragraph 20 of my Third Witness Statement and paragraph 12 of my Fourth Witness Statement which set out a number of factors which I believe contributed to the reduction in direct action, including:
  - (a) the service of the April 2022 Orders, the April 2023 Order and subsequently the Order at the Sites and by email to the campaign groups Extinction Rebellion and Just Stop Oil;
  - (b) the Orders providing a deterrent effect. For example, on 13 September 2023, Just Stop Oil tweeted in relation to Just Stop Oil led protests in Portsmouth involving road blockades:
    - "Disruption is frustrating, but we have no other choice. Fossil fuel companies have taken out private injunctions that make protests impossible at oil refineries, oil depots and even petrol stations" **UKOP14:** page 8; and
  - (c) The existence of a final injunction order dated 26 January 2024 in favour of Valero Energy, Valero Logistics UK Limited and Valero Pembrokeshire Oil Terminal Limited (together, "Valero") made by Mr Justice Ritchie following a hearing on 17 January 2024 (the "Valero Order") which grants a final five year injunction until 13 December 2028 subject to annual reviews. The Order protects a number of Valero's sites including land interest at Kingsbury Oil Terminal (of which Site 2 forms part). A copy of the Valero Order can be found at UKOP14: pages 9-29.

I continue to believe that, if any of these factors were to be removed, the direct action would escalate.

- 18. One of the factors mentioned at paragraph 12(d) of my Fourth Witness Statement and subsequently at paragraph 14 of my Fifth Witness Statement is the continuing existence of an injunction order made by Mr Justice Sweeting in the King's Bench Division dated 9 May 2022 in favour of the North Warwickshire Borough Council ("NWBC") and which protects the locality of the Kingsbury Oil Terminal (of which Site 2 forms part) (the "NWBC Order") UKOP6: pages 125-131. Since my Fifth Witness Statement, a final trial of NWBC's claim was heard at a hearing on 6 September 2024 and a final injunction was granted until 6 September 2027, subject to annual reviews. A copy of the order is at UKOP14: pages 30-44.
- 19. I still consider that the deterrent effect provided by the Order continues to assist the Claimants in ensuring that they can conduct their operations at the Sites without risk of the significant practical, financial and logistical implications for the Claimants, for many other third parties and potentially for the UK economy, being implications that would otherwise arise from direct action. In addition, there are also the substantial health and safety risks that arise from direct action to which I refer in paragraphs 20 to 42 of my First Witness Statement.

# EVIDENCE OF DIRECT ACTION BY JUST STOP OIL AND EXTINCTION REBELLION, INCLUDING TARGETING OF OTHER OPERATORS AND AFFILIATED ORGANISATIONS FROM 22 SEPTEMBER 2023 TO 4 NOVEMBER 2024

- 20. Since the date of my Fifth Witness Statement, there continues to be activity targeted at industries and organisations that members of Extinction Rebellion and / or Just Stop Oil consider to be affiliated to the oil and gas industries.
- 21. Paragraph 16 of my Fourth Witness Statement referred to the announcement by Just Stop Oil on 24 April 2023 of a new campaign involving disruption across central London by marching slowly on major roads as part of an "indefinite campaign of civil resistance to demand an end to new UK oil and gas projects" UKOP9: pages 9-10. Paragraph 17 of my Fourth Witness statement detailed the slow marches carried out between 5 April 2024 and 6 July 2023 and paragraph 17 of my Fifth Witness Statement detailed additional slow marches carried out between 6 July 2023 and 22 September 2023. Further examples of the slow marches that have been reported as having been carried out since 22 September 2023, both in London and across England, include the following:
  - (a) On 23 September 2023, around 50 Just Stop Oil supporters took part in slow marches along roads in Bristol city centre and blocked traffic to demand that the UK government stop all new oil and gas projects **UKOP14: pages 45-49**;
  - (b) On 30 October 2023, 62 Just Stop Oil supporters were arrested by the Metropolitan Police after carrying out a slow march in Whitehall **UKOP14: pages 50-54**;
  - (c) On 1 November 2023, around 45 Just Stop Oil supporters marched on Cromwell Road in West London, approximately 40 of which were arrested under Section 7 of the Public Order Act 2023 (the "Public Order Act") UKOP14: pages 55-57. I understand that Section 7 applies where an offence is committed by an act or an intention to do an act that interferes with the use or operation of key national infrastructure;
  - (d) On 3 November 2023, around 12 Just Stop Oil supporters carried out a march in East London bringing traffic to a halt and 12 supporters were arrested for allegedly breaching Section 7 of the Public Order Act **UKOP14: pages 58-59.** The Metropolitan Police tweeted on X (formerly known as twitter) on this date at 4:58pm that 112 people had been arrested in the week leading up to this march **UKOP14: page 60**;
  - (e) On 6 November 2023, a group of 130 Just Stop Oil supporters were involved in a march in Whitehall towards Parliament Square and it was reported that dozens of protestors were arrested after bringing traffic near Downing Street to a halt. It was subsequently

reported on 1 October 2024 that three Just Stop Oil supporters were found guilty of wilfully obstructing a highway in relation to this incident after a trial at Stratford Magistrates' Court **UKOP14:** pages 61-74;

- (f) On 8 November 2023, more than 40 arrests were made after Just Stop Oil supporters failed to move out of the road on Waterloo Bridge and slow marched towards The Strand. The Metropolitan Police were reported as saying that the march caused traffic to be held up on the bridge, including an ambulance with "blue lights on" **UKOP14: pages 75-79**;
- (g) On 12 November 2023, 40 Just Stop Oil supporters blocked traffic on a dual carriageway near Finsbury Park and at least 25 arrests were made **UKOP14: pages 80-88**;
- (h) On 13 November 2023, 40 Just Stop Oil supporters marched on a North London Road. On 15 December 2023, it was reported that one of the supporters was given a seven month prison sentence after pleading guilty to breaching section 7 of the Public Order Act UKOP14: pages 89-90;
- (i) On 17 November 2023, around 20 Just Stop Oil supporters were arrested whilst marching from Trafalgar Square towards Parliament Square **UKOP14: pages 91-93**;
- (j) On 24 November, 5 Just Stop Oil supporters were arrested whilst marching from Trafalgar Square to Parliament Square **UKOP14: pages 94-96**; and
- (k) On 1 December 2023, 7 Just Stop Oil supporters were arrested whilst marching from Trafalgar Square to Parliament Square **UKOP14:** pages 97-99.
- 22. On 9 October 2023, it was reported that a Just Stop Oil supporter was arrested for spray painting one of Bristol University's buildings in orange paint. The individual claimed that this was ""to call for an immediate end to all new oil and gas" UKOP14: pages 100-106.
- On 11 October 2023, it was reported that dozens of Extinction Rebellion supporters staged a "die-in" to block the main doors of Havas, a media agency, by lying on the floor, covered in white sheets. It was reported that Havas were targeted because of an alleged link to a fossil fuel company UKOP14: pages 107-110.
- 24. On 17 October 2023, it was reported that Extinction Rebellion supporters had blocked an oil and gas summit, Energy Intelligence Forum, at InterContinental Park Lane hotel in London by gluing themselves to the road outside and the hotel's revolving doors **UKOP14**: pages 111-113.
- 25. On 18 October 2023, it was reported that hundreds of Extinction Rebellion supporters occupied the City of London offices of ten Lloyd's of London insurers demanding they rule out insuring coal and oil related projects and held up signs stating "Don't insure fossil fuels" UKOP14: pages 114-119.
- 26. On 6 November 2023, it was reported that two Just Stop Oil supporters were arrested after smashing the glass covering a painting, The Toilet of Venus (The Rokeby Venus) by Diego Velázquez, with hammers at the National Gallery. Following the incident, Just Stop Oil stated "it is time for deeds not words. It is time to Just Stop Oil...New oil and gas will kill millions " UKOP14: pages 120-125.
- 27. On 27 November 2023, it was reported that supporters of Money Rebellion (which is a sister organisation of Extinction Rebellion) superglued shut the doors of almost 50 Barclays Bank's branches in city centres across the country. Posters affixed to the doors stated "\$190 billion in finance for fossil fuels since 2015" and the press release by Extinction Rebellion following the

- incident stated that the group was demanding the bank "commits to end the funding of fossil fuel projects and companies expanding fossil fuel extraction" **UKOP14**: pages 126-128.
- 28. On 29 November 2023, it was reported that 18 Just Stop Oil supporters gathered outside Rishi Sunak's home in Kensington beating pots and pans and demanded that the UK halts future licences and consents for fossil fuels. All supporters were detained under Section 50 of the Police Reform Act 2002, which I understand relates to persons engaging in anti-social behaviour, and 16 of the supporters were taken into custody **UKOP14**: pages 129-134.
- 29. On 1 February 2024, it was reported that supporters of Extinction Rebellion targeted a panel debate organised by the Science Museum, causing the debate to end. One of the protesters held up a banner reading "2024 more droughts, floods and deaths fuelled by Science Museum oil & coal sponsors" UKOP14: pages 135-138.
- 30. On 27 February 2024, it was reported that Extinction Rebellion supporters had stormed London's 'Walkie Talkie' building on Fenchurch Street and occupied the offices of five major insurers. The supporters stated they were staging an "indefinite occupation" and demanded that the companies talk to them about "insuring climate-wrecking oil and gas" UKOP14: pages 139-144.
- 31. On 29 February 2024, it was reported that Extinction Rebellion supporters had entered the London headquarters of advertising and media agency McCann Worldgroup to "protest against the company's reported bid for another stint as top greenwasher for fossil fuel giants Saudi Aramco" UKOP14: pages 145-148. On the same date, it was reported that supporters of Extinction Rebellion had protested outside the offices of AXA UK's headquarters in London, to demand that the company stop insuring new fossil fuel projects UKOP14: pages 149-150.
- 32. On 1 March 2024, it was reported that Just Stop Oil and Extinction Rebellion supporters occupied an office building in Birmingham where insurers Allianz, Chubb and Zurich have offices in order to demand that they stop insuring new and expanded coal, oil, and gas projects and the companies developing them. It was reported that three supporters were arrested **UKOP14: pages 151-152**.
- 33. On 2 March 2024, it was reported that Extinction Rebellion supporters had broken into a chemicals plant near Lyon in south-eastern France to protest against the alleged discharge of non-biodegradable PFAS substances. It was reported that the supporters wrote "murderers" in red paint on the walls and broke doors and materials in the plant. It was also reported that eight people were arrested **UKOP14: page 153**.
- 34. On 4 March 2024, it was reported that Extinction Rebellion supporters occupied the office of Tokio Marine, an insurance company, for 30 hours to demand that they stop insuring all new oil, gas and coal projects **UKOP14: pages 154-158**.
- 35. On 10 March 2024 at 11:24am, Just Stop Oil announced on X (formerly known as Twitter) that "Just Stop Oil will Take Action at Airports" **UKOP14: page 159**. As a result of this announcement, the major London and regional airports obtained injunctions against persons connected with the Just Stop Oil campaign and / or its connected organisations, which injunctions are outlined at paragraph 59 below. Examples of the actions subsequently taken by Just Stop Oil supporters at airport facilities are as follows:
  - (a) On 20 June 2024, it was reported two Just Stop Oil supporters entered a private airfield in Stansted Airport and sprayed orange paint over jets, causing at least £52,000 of damage. Two individuals were arrested by Essex police. A spokesperson for Just Stop Oil on the same day confirmed that "Just Stop Oil is demanding that our next government sign up to a legally binding treaty to phase out fossil fuels by 2030" UKOP14: pages 160-168.

- (b) On 24 July 2024, it was reported that ten Just Stop Oil supporters were arrested at Heathrow Airport on suspicion of conspiring to interfere with a site of key national infrastructure under the Public Order Act **UKOP14: pages 169-173**.
- (c) On 29 July 2024, it was reported that eight Just Stop Oil supporters were arrested by Sussex Police on suspicion of interfering with public infrastructure at Gatwick airport after blocking an entrance to a security gate **UKOP14: pages 174-179**.
- (d) On 30 July 2024, it was reported that two Just Stop Oil protesters were arrested on suspicion of criminal damage after spraying orange paint in Terminal 5 at Heathrow Airport and it was reported on 31 July 2024 that they were subsequently remanded in jail following a hearing at Westminster Magistrates Court **UKOP14:** pages 180-190.
- (e) On 1 August 2024, it was reported that six Just Stop Oil supporters blocked access to the departure gates of Heathrow Terminal 5 holding up signs saying "Oil Kills". Seven supporters were arrested on suspicion of public order offences UKOP14: pages 191-198.
- (f) On 5 August 2024, it was reported that four Just Stop Oil supporters, who police said planned to cause "significant disruption" at Manchester Airport, were arrested on suspicion of conspiring to cause a public nuisance. According to a Just Stop Oil press statement on 6 August 2024, the supporters in question were subsequently remanded to prison **UKOP14:** pages 199-203.
- 36. On 26 April 2024, it was reported that two Just Stop Oil supporters were arrested for covering a Member of Parliament's office in Cumbria with posters reading "Stop Tory Coal" UKOP14: pages 204-209.
- 37. On 2 May 2024, it was reported that Extinction Rebellion and Just Stop Oil supporters targeted multiple insurance offices in Manchester whilst demanding that the insurers refuse to underwrite any new fossil projects and infrastructure **UKOP14**: pages 210-211.
- 38. On 10 May 2024, it was reported that two Just Stop Oil supporters smashed the glass case covering the Magna Carta at the British Library. The individuals were taken into custody on suspicion of causing criminal damage and were later charged **UKOP14: pages 212-220**.
- 39. On 3 June 2024, it was reported that Extinction Rebellion supporters had blocked access to Farnborough Airport by barricading one of the gates and four protesters locked-on to oil drums to protest against the expansion of the airport, holding signs including "Fewer flights not more" UKOP14: pages 221-223.
- 40. On 7 June 2024, it was reported that Just Stop Oil supporters disrupted the wedding of the Duke of Westminster by letting off orange powder from fire extinguishers as the wedding party left the church. In a statement following the protest, Just Stop Oil stated " there is no future unless we come together to stop oil and gas" UKOP14: pages 224-230.
- 41. On 19 June 2024, it was reported that two Just Stop Oil supporters sprayed Stonehenge with orange powder paint and that they were arrested on suspicion of damaging the monument **UKOP14:** pages 231-234. A press release by Just Stop Oil following the incident attributed this to "Just Stop Oil is demanding that our government sign up to a legal binding treaty to phase out fossil fuels by 2030" **UKOP14:** pages 235-237.
- 42. On 9 July 2024, it was reported that Extinction Rebellion supporters had scaled the roof of East Sussex Country Hall to demand that East Sussex Council stops investing its pensions in fossil fuels. Supporters held up signs saying "Cut your ties with Big Oil" UKOP14: pages 238-241.

- 43. On 10 July 2024, it was reported that Just Stop Oil supporters poured powder paint at three intersections leading into Parliament Square **UKOP14**: pages 242-249.
- 44. On 27 September 2024, it was reported that three Just Stop Oil supporters had thrown soup over two Vincent van Gogh paintings at the National Gallery and that the Metropolitan Police held all three on suspicion of causing criminal damage. This incident followed two Just Stop Oil protesters being jailed for two years and twenty months respectively for targeting one of the same works in October 2022, as outlined at paragraph 31(c) of my Third Witness Statement **UKOP14: pages 250-251**. On 18 October 2024, it was reported that three Just Stop Oil supporters unfurled a large banner in front of the same Vincent van Gough paintings at the National Gallery stating "For Health's Sake Just Stop Oil". The three supporters were escorted from the gallery by security guards **UKOP14: pages 252-253**.
- 45. On 28 October 2024, it was reported that Extinction Rebellion supporters occupied the lobby of the Walkie Talkie building, which contains the offices of insurers Ascot, Talbot, Chaucer, Markel, Allied World, CNA Hardy, Tokio Marine Kiln, Sirius International and Lancashire Syndicates and 60 Gracechurch Street, where the insurer Allianz has an office. It was also reported that the supporters delivered ultimatum letters to the insurance companies "warning that they would face more actions unless they pull the plug on their fossil fuel clients" UKOP14: pages 254-257.
- 46. On 29 October 2024, it was reported that six Extinction Rebellion supporters were arrested for spraying the Gerkin building with chalk spray, which the press release by Extinction Rebellion stated was "to highlight the firm's leading role in insuring fossil fuel crooks to set the planet on fire" UKOP14: pages 258-261.
- 47. On 30 October 2024, it was reported that ten supporters occupied the offices of insurers AIG Talbot in Fenchurch Street, with three of the supporters also scaling the building and unfolding a banner saying "Insuring fossil fuels= Climate chaos". One supporter was arrested **UKOP14: pages 262-268**.

## STATEMENTS FROM EXTINCTION REBELLION AND JUST STOP OIL

- 48. The recent action taken by Extinction Rebellion and Just Stop Oil, as referred to above at paragraphs 21 to 47, indicates that both groups are continuing to target companies and organisations affiliated to the oil and gas industry.
- 49. In a press release dated 29 September 2023, Extinction Rebellion announced their first UK-wide monthly "Day of Action" campaign, which was intended to build on the "Big One" movement referred to at paragraph 38 of my Fourth Witness Statement. The release stated "Our uprising to end all uprisings starts here" and a spokesperson for Extinction Rebellion said "we will mobilise and send a clear message that the fossil fuel era is over. Now more than ever we need to unite together and become a force that cannot be ignored" UKOP14: pages 269-272.
- 50. Following Extinction Rebellion supporters blocking the oil and gas summit Energy Intelligence Forum (referred to at paragraph 24 above), a spokesperson for Extinction Rebellion stated on 17 October 2023 that "We will not stop until necessary measures are taken immediately to halt new oil, gas and coal production. We will continue to ramp up direct disruptive action..." UKOP14: page 113. In a subsequent press release dated 1 January 2024, Extinction Rebellion referred to "escalating actions and tactics throughout the course of the year" and stated "Now we step it up. We mobilise... Turn your rage into resistance" UKOP14: pages 273-278.
- 51. According to an Extinction Rebellion press statement dated 14 February 2024, businesses that will be targeted by direct disruptive action include insurance industry firms unless they "stop greenlighting fossil fuel projects". The group added "If they fail to do so, Extinction Rebellion and the other members of the coalition will use a wide variety of protest tactics to bring their behaviour

to public and media attention with the aim of causing major reputational and revenue damage ... This is only the beginning. We won't stop until insurers get out of the fossil fuel industry for good" **UKOP14:** pages 279-282.

- 52. Extinction Rebellion also announced on 14 October 2024 an "Insure Our Survival" campaign. The press release by Extinction Rebellion on this day stated they had issued an ultimatum letter to executives at UK-based insurance companies which stated: "Make a pledge to get out of new oil, coal and gas- or face actions and protests". The press release also stated that "Thousands of ordinary members of the public... will flood into the City of London from October 28 to target insurers with a wave of nonviolent direct actions... After three days of intensive action in the capital, the campaign will spread out to target the offices of insurers in towns and cities across the UK" UKOP14: pages 283-287.
- 53. Combined, these statements by Extinction Rebellion indicate that Extinction Rebellion remains committed to action against companies and organisations affiliated to the oil and gas industry without any discernible end date and suggests that Extinction Rebellion may escalate their actions going forwards.
- 54. The press statement by Extinction Rebellion on 29 September 2023 also confirmed that the "Day of Action" campaign is part of the group's strategy to build and strengthen alliances with other climate and environmental groups **UKOP14**: pages 269-272 and it was later announced on 31 October 2023 that Extinction Rebellion intends to expand its "movement" to reach out to other organisations and groups to organise actions and events **UKOP14**: pages 288-290. This suggests the group may be involved in more co-ordinated action with other campaign groups in the future, including Just Stop Oil, as evidenced by the joint targeting of insurers' offices by Just Stop Oil and Extinction Rebellion supporters on 1 March 2024 and 2 May 2024 (referred to at paragraphs 32 and 37 above).
- 55. Just Stop Oil have made various statements in their press releases which suggest they will also continue to target the oil and gas industry and those affiliated with it and may commence new campaigns in this regard. This includes the following:
  - (a) Press statements by Just Stop Oil on 29 November 2023 and 7 December 2023 stated that "It's up to all of us to come together and resist....We're coming together to demand an end to new oil and gas. It's not a case of 'if' we will win; but 'when' UKOP14: pages 131 and 293.
  - (b) In a press release entitled "We need a Revolution. What's the Plan" dated 3 March 2024, Just Stop Oil announced a "democratic revolution" and confirmed that, throughout 2024, "nonviolent civil resistance to a harmful state will continue, with coordinated, radical actions that reach out to new people and capture the attention of the world. Alongside this, a new political project will be set up". In the same press statement Just Stop Oil issued a new three-part demand: "No New Oil, Revoke Tory Licences and Just Stop Oil by 2030". The statement confirmed that the group "in addition to disrupting high-profile cultural events and continuing our Stop Tory Oil campaign Just Stop Oil will commence a campaign of high-level actions at sites of key importance to the fossil fuel industry airports" UKOP14: pages 294-295.
  - (c) On the same date, the Telegraph reported that a leading Just Stop Oil campaigner had confirmed that the group intended "to continue targeting businesses and MPs' homes despite Rishi Sunak warning against the rise of "mob rule" in Britain" UKOP14: pages 296-298.
  - (d) In reference to its campaign of taking action at airports on 10 March 2024, Just Stop Oil stated on X (formerly known as Twitter) that "Our Government doesn't care about its

responsibilities, so it's up to us to come together and confront the fossil fuel elites this summer" **UKOP14:** page 159. A subsequent press release dated 22 July 2024 confirmed that Just Stop Oil supporters would be taking action at airports as no assurance had been given that the UK government would enter into "a legally binding treaty to stop extracting and burning oil, gas and coal by 2030" **UKOP14:** pages 299-300.

- (e) In advance of the UK election in July 2024, Just Stop Oil released a press statement dated 13 June 2024 which stated that "If the incoming leader does not support this treaty, Just Stop Oil will begin a new campaign of civil resistance... This is the start of an International Uprising. And it's only just getting started. The era of fossil fuels is over" UKOP14: page 302.
- (f) Press statements by Just Stop Oil dated 10 July 2024, 24 July 2024, 29 July 2024, 30 July 2024 and 1 August 2024 state "As long as political leaders fail to take swift and decisive action...Just Stop Oil supporters, working with other groups internationally, will take the proportionate action necessary to generate much needed political pressure...areas of key importance to the fossil fuel economy will be declared sites of civil resistance around the world" UKOP14: pages 249, 173, 179, 188 and 198.
- 56. Just Stop Oil has remained consistent in its attempts to recruit supporters to join in direct action. Examples of this are as follows:
  - (a) As part of announcing a further campaign of slow marches in November 2023, a press release by Just Stop Oil dated 9 October 2023 stated: "It's up to all of us now to come together and resist... Together we can be the real opposition this country needs and we will win. We will stop new oil and gas... Its People vs Oil!" UKOP14: page 106.
  - (b) After two Just Stop Oil supporters targeted the National Gallery (referred to at paragraph 26 above), a Just Stop Oil spokesperson commented in its press release dated 6 November 2023 that "governments [are] destroying our home, our families and our institutions in order to enrich criminal oil barons and corporations. The only thing that has ever stood in their way is ordinary people, taking to the streets to demand change. We invite everyone to join us" UKOP14: page 124.
  - (c) A press statement entitled "An invitation to join us" by Just Stop Oil on 16 December 2023 stated that "to protect the common good there is a requirement to disrupt the public order and to break the law" **UKOP14: pages 303-308**.
  - Various press releases, such as those on 10 May 2024, 7 June 2024, 19 June 2024 and 20 June 2024, invite supporters to "Sign up to take action" UKOP14: pages 217, 230, 237 and 165.
  - (e) Main pages on the Just Stop Oil website state "Civil Resistance works- Join us" and invites supporters to "be part of this International Uprising... All the freedoms we enjoy have been won by groups of people stepping into disobedience asking nicely just doesn't cut it. And that's all without saying just how dire our situation is and how quickly we must act" UKOP14: pages 309-313.
- 57. The materials that have been published on Just Stop Oil's and Extinction Rebellion's websites, as well as the direct targeting of organisations outlined above, continue to indicate that oil and gas companies will remain a target of their campaign. Consequently, there remains a risk to the Claimants' sites which the Order granted in its current terms protects against.
- 58. Of particular concern to the Claimants is Just Stop Oil's new campaign (referred to at paragraph 35 above) to target airports, given that, as Mr Peter Davis refers to at paragraphs 16 21 of his

first witness statement dated 7 April 2022, the terminal at Site 1 is an important fuel source to the British aviation industry, providing aircraft fuel for local airports including Gatwick, Heathrow and Luton airports. It is therefore of key strategic importance to the UK as a key hub in the distribution of fuel for aviation and Heathrow, Gatwick and Luton airports depend on supplies from the Site 1 terminal to maintain operations. In addition, the terminal at Site 2 is also of key strategic importance to the UK as it provides aviation kerosene to the Midlands airports. Protests at either of the Sites therefore have the potential to impact the airports at Luton and the Midlands airports as well as Heathrow and Gatwick (which have already been a target, see paragraph 35 above). A copy of the press release detailing this plan is at **UKOP14: pages 294-295**.

# **OTHER INJUNCTION PROCEEDINGS**

- 59. The only updates to my knowledge in relation to:
  - (a) the injunctions granted to oil and gas companies in relation to protests against the industry, as set out at paragraph 45 of my Fourth Witness Statement and paragraph 28 of my Fifth Witness Statement, are as follows:

Claim Number	Property	Claimant(s)	Duration of injunction
QB-2022-001259	Shell Centre Tower	Shell International Petroleum Company Limited	Interim injunction was extended on 17 April 2024 until 12 November 2024 or a date within 4 weeks after the date of the final hearing.
QB-2022-001241	Shell Haven Site	Shell UK Limited	Interim injunction was extended on 17 April 2024 until 12 November 2024 or a date within 4 weeks after the date of the final hearing
QB-2022-001420	Petrol filling station	Shell UK Oil Products Limited	Interim injunction was extended on 17 April 2024 until 12 November 2024 or a date within 4 weeks after the date of the final hearing
QB-2022-001098	Fawley Petrochemical Complex, Hythe Terminal, Avonmouth Terminal, Birmingham Terminal, Purfleet Terminal, West London Terminal, Hartland Park Logistics Hub and Alton	Esso Petroleum Company Limited and Exxonmobil Chemical Limited	Final injunction granted on 29 January 2024 until 11 July 2028 subject to annual review on 18 July of each year

	compound at Holybourne		
QB-2022-000904	Pembroke oil refinery and jetties, Manchester oil terminal, Kingsbury oil terminal, Plymouth oil terminal, Cardiff terminal, Avonmouth terminal and Pembrokeshire terminal	Valero Logistics UK Ltd and Valero Pembrokeshire Oil	Final injunction granted until 13 December 2028 or further order in the meantime following a hearing on 17 January 2024

(b) the injunctions obtained by parties against persons unknown including those affiliated or connected to the Extinction Rebellion, Just Stop Oil and/or Insulate Britain campaigns set out at paragraph 46 of my Fourth Witness Statement are as follows:

Claim Number	Property/Land	Claimant(s)	Duration of injunction	
KB-2022-001317	Roads in the vicinity of Navigator Terminals Thurrock terminal; Esso's Purfleet terminal; Exoleum's Grays terminal; and Oikos' Canvey Island terminal	Thurock Council Essex County Council	A final injunction up until and including 12 July 2029, subject to a review hearing on 11 July 2025	
QB-2021-003576 QB-2021-003626 QB-2021-003737	M25, M25 feeder roads and Kent roads	National Highways	Injunction has been extended until 10 May 2025 following a hearing on 26 April 2024	
QB-2021-003841	Multiple A roads, bridges and tunnels in London	Transport for London	Final injunction until 2 May 2028. Review hearing took place on 13 May 2024 with judgment reserved.	
KB-2022-003542	Multiple Roads, bridges and tunnels in London	Transport for London	Final injunction until 2 May 2028. Review hearing took place on 13 May 2024 with judgment reserved.	
KB-2024-002210	Heathrow Airport	Heathrow Airport Limited	Interim injunction until 9 July 2029 granted on 10 July 2024	

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KB-2024-002336	Gatwick Airport	Gatwick Airport Limited	Injunction granted on 19 July 2024 until 19 July 2025
KB-2024-001765	London City Airport	London City Airport Limited and Docklands Aviation Group Limited	Injunction granted on 20 June 2024 until 20 June 2029, final determination or further order in the meantime
KB-2024-002132	London Stansted Airport, Manchester Airport and East Midlands International Airport	Manchester Airport PLC, Airport City (Manchester) Ltd, Manchester Airport Car Park Limited, Stansted Airport Ltd and East Midlands International Airport Ltd	Injunction granted on 5 July 2024 with immediate effect unless varied, discharged or extended by further order with a periodic review at intervals not exceeding 12 months
KB-2024-002473	Bristol Airport and Liverpool Airport	Birmingham Airport Limited, Liverpool Airport Limited, Peel L&P Investments (North) Limited, Bristol Airport Limited, South West Airports Limited and Bristol Airport Developments Limited	Injunction granted on the 6 August 2024 with immediate effect unless varied, discharged or extended by further order subject to an annual review on the anniversary of the order
KB-2024-002317	Leeds Airport, London Luton Airport and Newcastle International Airport	Leeds Bradford Airport Limited, London Luton Operations Limited, Newcastle International Airport Limited and Nial Services Limited	Injunction granted on 19 July 2024 with immediate effect unless varied, discharged or extended by further order, subject to a periodic review at intervals not exceeding 12 months
KB-2024-002596	London Southend Airport	London Southend Airport Company Limited, London Southend Solar Limited and Thames Gateway Airport Limited	Injunction grated on the 14 August 2024 until 14 August 2029, final determination of the claim or further

	order	in	the
	meantim	e	

## SUMMARY

- 60. The evidence set out above, as well as that in my Previous Witness Statements, confirms that there continues to be frequent and significant direct action undertaken by Just Stop Oil and Extinction Rebellion, and which continues to target those affiliated with the oil and gas industry. There is also no clear end date to the action and both organisations would appear to be focused on mobilising their supporters and recruiting new members to their campaigns.
- 61. As referred to at paragraph 55 of my Third Witness Statement and paragraph 48 of my Fourth Witness Statement, given the importance of the Sites covered by the Order, Just Stop Oil and Extinction Rebellion's continuing campaigns, and the highly disruptive and inherently dangerous effect of their protesting techniques, means that I continue to believe that, in the absence of the final injunctive relief under the Order continuing, there is a real risk of imminent trespass on the Sites and / or interference with the private access routes in relation to both Sites. I do not believe that this risk is likely to abate in the near or medium future.
- 62. The Order continues to have a deterrent effect, and its impact (as well as that of similar orders granted to other oil and gas operators) has been referred to by Just Stop Oil and Extinction Rebellion when explaining why sites owned by oil and gas operators have not been the target of recent protests, for example:
  - (a) in response to a member of the public tweeting:

"They are in the wrong place. Outside oil refineries would be the right place to protest. Then of course they would not get the publicity they crave. Stopping workers only make their protest null and void."

on 9 June 2023 at 10.20am Just Stop Oil tweeted:

"Do you know what happens if you protest outside oil refineries now? Oil companies have bought injunctions to ban people from taking action at refineries, distribution hubs, even petrol stations. Punishments for breaking injunctions range from unlimited fines to imprisonments"

Extinction Rebellion UK retweeted the above tweet on 9 June 2023 (**UKOP9: page 8** and paragraph 12(b) of my Fourth Witness Statement); and

(b) as referred to at paragraph 17(b) above, on 13 September 2023, Just Stop Oil tweeted in relation to Just Stop Oil led protests in Portsmouth involving road blockades:

"Disruption is frustrating, but we have no other choice. Fossil fuel companies have taken out private injunctions that make protests impossible at oil refineries, oil depots and even petrol stations" **UKOP14: page 8.** 

63. Consequently, the Claimants are applying for the Order to remain in place in its current form until 23:59 hrs on 20 October 2028, subject to the annual reviews provided for at paragraph 12 of the Order.

## **PROCEEDINGS**

64. I refer to paragraphs 42 and 43 of my Fifth Witness Statement. The Claimants' solicitors have confirmed to me that no acknowledgment of service, admission or defence has been received on behalf of any Defendant to these proceedings since my Fifth Witness Statement (or at all). The Claimants' solicitors have also confirmed to me that no Defendant has ever engaged with these proceedings.

## **APPLICATION DATED 4 NOVEMBER 2024**

- The following paragraphs of my statement relate to, and are made in support of, the Application made by the Claimants on 4 November 2024.
- 66. In each of the April 2022 Orders, the April 2023 Order (together, the "Interim Orders") and subsequently the Order, there has been a requirement for the Claimants to effect service of the respective Orders by fixing copies of the Order in clear transparent sealed containers at a minimum number of 2 prominent locations on the perimeter of each of the Sites. This requirement can be found at paragraph 6(b) of the Order. The April 2022 Orders also required a note of the respective hearings and the Court Documents to be served in this way, as well as any future applications in these proceedings by the Claimants together with their evidence in support, The Claimants' compliance with these service requirements is set out in the following documents:
  - (a) paragraphs 6 to 9 of the Second Witness Statement of Daniel Owen Christopher Talfan Davis dated 14 April 2022;
  - (b) paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Third Witness Statement of Daniel Owen Christopher Talfan Davis dated 14 April 2023; and
  - (c) paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Second Witness Statement of Antony Douglas Phillips dated 23 November 2023.
- 67. The cumulative effect of the Claimants having complied with the service requirements in each of the respective Orders is that the sealed containers at each of the Sites have become cumbersome as they are effectively 'stuffed' with documents. Not only are the containers visually displeasing and difficult for any party to navigate their contents, but as the containers are kept outside at all times, the weather conditions in the last two years have also led to a deterioration in the condition of the containers and the documents inside. Two images of the containers can be found at UKOP14: pages 314-315 in which it can clearly be seen that the containers have started to disintegrate.
- 68. In fact, BBC Radio 4 released a recording on 2 July 2024 called "On Trial: Protesters versus the Law", which can be listened to at <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0020qkr">https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0020qkr</a> and which relates to a reporter visiting Kingsbury Oil Terminal, of which Site 2 forms part. A transcript of the recording can be found at UKOP14: pages 316-342 in which the reporter describes finding, in front of Kingsbury oil terminal something "quite bizarre" in the form of " a big plastic storage box that you might use to store stuff under your bed or something, and it's got a sign on the front saying High Court injunction". The reporter makes the following statements in relation to the sealed containers:
  - "It doesn't feel like an official way to present documents... they're all in sort of disintegrating plastic folders.......This is here to inform potential protesters that there is an injunction in place here...inside it .. is basically loads and loads of files with different injunctions in them... it's very mouldy... I'm not sure anyone other than us would wade through this box of mouldy documents but there is also a sign on the fence that summarises the terms of the injunction".
- 69. Paragraph 7 of the Order provides that good service will have been effected once the initial posting, fixing and sending has taken place regardless of whether copies of the Order or warning notices

are subsequently removed, for example, by the actions of third parties. However, the Claimants are incurring costs in replacing the sealed containers and the documents inside because of their deterioration.

- 70. At the Return Date hearing on 20 April 2023, the Claimants' Counsel informed the Honourable Mr Justice Rajah that the sealed containers at the Sites had been removed **UKOP14: page 369.** I understand, from having read the paragraphs of the transcript which relate to this issue that Mr Justice Rajah interpreted this as the documents inside the containers having been taken away to be read, stating "Well, if I may say, the removal of the documents shows that it works because they have been taken away to be read......and to bring it to the attention to those who are interested." However, Mr Justice Rajah also made clear that he had no objection to the containers only being filled once, stating "I do not have any objection to them only being filled once."
- 71. I am only aware of a single incident of the containers at the Sites having been removed prior to the Return Date hearing in April 2023. I am aware that the removal occurred during a tidying up exercise following protestor activity. However, I cannot confirm who removed these containers.
- As can be seen from the photographs at **UKOP14:** pages 314-315 the containers are currently placed at the entrances to the Sites in order to come to the attention of any party who may intend to enter the Sites. However, there is no parking at the entrances to the Sites, which are in constant use. As such, in order for any potential Defendants to read the documents contained within the containers, they would need to park on the junction at the entrance to the Sites. The Claimants are concerned that this creates a potential hazard to anyone entering or leaving the Sites as well as any Defendants. The same issue does not arise in relation to anyone wishing to read the Site 1 Notice and the Site 2 Notice as they are affixed at multiple locations around the Sites including entranceways, access points, gates and attached to the perimeter fencing.
- 73. For all of the above reasons, the Claimants seek the Court's permission:
  - (a) to dispense with any requirement in the Interim Orders on the Claimants to continue to fix copies of documents in clear transparent sealed containers at each of the Sites; and
  - (b) for paragraph 6(b) of the Order to be amended so that the Claimants are permitted to affix copies of the Order at a minimum number of 2 prominent locations on the perimeter of each of the Sites, whether that is in in clear transparent sealed containers, or by any other method.
- 74. For the avoidance of doubt, the Claimants will continue to comply with the requirements for service contained at paragraph 6(a), (c) and (d) of the Order and which include:
  - (a) Posting the Order at the following web link: https://ukop.azurewebsites.net;
  - (b) Fixing warning notices in the form set out in Schedules 5 and 6 as follows in not less than A2 size:
    - (i) In respect of Buncefield (Site 1) by affixing the form of site injunction notice (the "Site 1 Notice") in clearly visible locations (including at entranceways, access points, gates and attached to the perimeter fencing) around and comprising part of Buncefield (Site 1); and
    - (ii) In respect of Kingsbury (Site 2) by affixing the form of site injunction notice (the "Site 2 Notice") in clearly visible locations (including at entranceways, access points, gates and attached to the perimeter fencing) around and comprising part of Kingsbury (Site 2); and

- (c) Sending an email to each of the following email addresses with the information that copies of the Order may be viewed at the web link referred to in paragraph 6(a) above:
  - (i) <u>xr-legal@riseup.net;</u>
  - (ii) juststopoilpress@protonmail.com;
  - (iii) info@juststopoil.org; and
  - (iv) juststopoil@protonmail.com.

For the reasons set out in this statement and the Previous Witness Statements, I respectfully request that the final injunction granted by the Order continues and that the Application is granted in the terms sought.

## **Statement of Truth**

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

I understand that proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth. —Signed by:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dated: 4 November 2024

**John Michael Armstrong**