LEVEL OF DESCRIPTION:
Series

No.:
AU023.003S

FORMS PART OF:
AU023 Martha Kostuch fonds

TITLE:
Acid Deposition Research Program series

CREATOR:
Kostuch, Martha

DATE RANGE:
1983-1999

EXTENT:
1.54 m of textual records. – 8 maps

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY/BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH:
As acid rain and air pollution became more widely regarded as an important issue effecting the environment, Alberta Environment created the Acid Deposition Research Program (ADRP). This was a seven year, eight million dollar research program looking at the effects of acid deposition in Alberta. Study areas included, medical research into the effects of acid emissions on human health, biophysical research into the effects on vegetation, soils, air and water. This program was jointly funded by both industry and the Alberta government.

The ADRP Members Committee was composed of members of government, industry, the public representative and Martha Kostuch. In 1985, the committee decided to set up a Public Advisory Board (PAB) to the ADRP to bring more opportunities for public involvement and information to the program. The PAB included members from human health, agricultural, environmental and municipalities associations. Kostuch's role went from Committee Member to Chair of the Public Advisory Board on the ADRP. The role of the PAB on the ADRP was largely in an invited, advisory capacity.

One of the research projects that Kostuch initiated was a human health study of the area downwind of the sour gas plants along the east central foothills near to the Rocky Mountain House and Lodgepole, Alberta areas. The study was conducted in the Twin Butte/Pincher Creek area. When the Medical Diagnostic Review (MDR) report was released, it showed that acid deposition had very little to no effect on human health. Kostuch strongly disagreed with the way the research was conducted and with the findings of the report. She made several attempts to have her questions regarding the report answered by the head of the

study, Dr. Walter Spitzer, but was rebuffed, so she went public with her comments. The board of the ADRP felt she had overstepped her authority and she was dismissed in 1986.

CUSTODIAL HISTORY:
In April 2008, Martha Kostuch signed an agreement with Athabasca University to have her records digitized but she passed away before this work could be started. After her death on April 23, 2008, her records went into the custody of her son Edward and in July 2008, he donated the records to Athabasca University, Athabasca, Alberta.

SCOPE AND CONTENT:
The series consists of material pertaining to Kostuch's work as a Committee Member of the ADRP as a public representative, then as Chair of the Pubic Advisory Board to the ADRP.

The textual records include, reports and studies commissioned by the ADRP, correspondence, meeting minutes, reports written by Kostuch as Chair of the PAB, hand written notes, newsletters, newspaper clippings and news releases. The maps were prepared as part of the biophysical research and depict acidic soils and geographical features of Alberta. Much of the material in annotated by Martha Kostuch.

SOURCE OF TITLE:
Title taken from the contents of the fonds.

CONSERVATION:
Conservation copies have been made of some of the newspaper clippings, thermal fax paper and mimeograph paper.

ARRANGEMENT NOTE:
Series have been based on the major topics identified from the creator's arrangement, though some records may pertain to a number of series.

LANGUAGE NOTE:
The material is in English.

ACCESS CONDITIONS:
None.

USE CONDITIONS:
Permission for use required. Subject to *The Copyright Act*.

FINDING AIDS:
Box list and file list are available. Some of the material is available in electronic form.

INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING ACCESSIONS:
2008.015

Further accruals are not expected.

GENERAL NOTE:
Information for the administrative history was obtained from the records and from *The Edmonton Journal, Calgary Herald* and *Red Deer Advocate* newspapers.

SUBJECT HEADINGS:
Air - - Pollution
Ecology
Environmental policy - - research
Pollutants
Sulphur
Acid rain