

Exhibit 5

DECLARATION OF BRUCE D. ANDERSON

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I hereby declare as follows:

1. My name is Bruce D. Anderson and I reside at 9220 Grove Drive, Chisago City Minnesota which is considered part of the North Metro of the Twin Cities. I have lived here 2 ½ years. Prior to that I lived in: Cloquet, MN (near Duluth MN) from 2000-2016; Grangeville, Idaho from 1990-2000; Spearfish South Dakota from 1988-1990; Red Lodge Montana from 1983-1988; Watford City North Dakota, from 1978-1983; Fargo, ND from 1974-1978; Crookston, MN from 1972-1974; and South St. Paul, MN from birth in November 1953 to attending college in 1974.

2. My interest in the natural world and conservation arose while in high school when my parents purchased 120 acres of forest land and wetlands in north central Minnesota. I began to appreciate natural landscapes and wild places on this property that launched my natural resources education and career.

3. I graduated from North Dakota State University in 1977 with a degree in Range Management (Botany Department) with a minor in Wildlife Management. Following graduation, I began a career with the US Forest Service as a Range Management Specialist and Wildlife Biologist in the National Grasslands of SE North Dakota. I continued this career in the Badlands of Western North Dakota, the Black Hills National Forest (NF) of South Dakota, the Custer NF in South Central Montana, Nez Perce NF in West Central Idaho and finally the Superior NF in Northeast Minnesota. Following my federal Forest Service career, I was hired by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and had a four-year career as an Assistant Wildlife Manager in northern Minnesota.

4. During my natural resource career, I was involved with and/or responsible as program manager for wildlife management, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, non-native invasive species (NNIS), range

management, oil and gas development, mining, developed recreation and trails, fire effects monitoring and timber management. Involvement in these programs and areas has given me a working knowledge of ecosystem function and process across diverse landscapes including montane, canyon lands, northern plains prairies, the north woods, open brushlands and hardwood forests. This has allowed me to recognize, plan and execute management that sustained or enhanced ecosystem health. It also made me aware of the close relationship between population growth in the United States and environmental impacts.

5. When I was in elementary school in 1964, the U.S. population was only 190 million. It is now over 328 million. Immigration, both legal and illegal, has contributed to the rapid growth of Minnesota's population. According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, in Minnesota immigrants comprise 10% of the population, and their children have led to even more population growth. Minnesota had about 113,000 foreign-born residents in 1990, but that number had more than quadrupled to about 457,200 residents by 2015. The net change for Minnesota's foreign-born population was an *annual* increase of 13% between 1990 and 2000, 4.5 % between 2000 and 2010 and 4.2% between 2010 and 2015.¹ By comparison, population growth due to natural increase in Minnesota was less than 1%, .6% and .4% annually during those same years. The driver of Minnesota's population growth is projected to shift by 2031 when population gains from net migration are anticipated to outpace natural increase.² Because of my long career in resource management has lead me to understand how profoundly population growth affects the environment, this unending population growth fills me with worry. Population growth leads to development and urban sprawl. I have observed firsthand the loss of open space and wildlands stemming from urban and rural sprawl in

¹ See Minnesota State Demographic Center at <https://mn.gov/admin/demography>

² Id.

all five states I've lived and worked in and many states I've travelled through. But the loss of the open spaces in Minnesota are especially saddening for me to experience.

6. As a native Minnesotan, two natural landscape features that have always been especially important to me are native grasslands and wetlands, particularly prairie wetlands. Over half of my natural resource career I've been involved with grassland and prairie management and during that time and continuing through today, I've developed a genuine appreciation and love for grasslands through personal experience with them. Historically, Minnesota's prairies and "Big Woods" forest covered the land in the state— and now it has nearly disappeared. The loss of the prairies means a loss of a wealth of diverse species, habitats and cultures that thrive there. With its fertile soil and nutritious grasses, prairie became the basis for an agricultural empire. It is Minnesota's most endangered habitat type. I deeply value my experience exploring and protecting the prairie and deeply mourn and worry it will continue to disappear. The near elimination of native prairie has inspired many efforts to protect remaining parcels, but the pressure to further develop the lands of Minnesota will only increase if population continues to grow at a high rate through immigration. Although less involved, I also was responsible in management and protection of wetlands. Historically, Minnesota's prairies and "Big Woods" forest covered vast amounts of the land in the state— and now they have nearly disappeared. By the turn of the 21st Century, wildland retaining much of their original wildness and naturalness constituted only 7 percent (3.1 million acres) of the state. Today I search out and continue to explore protected tall grass prairie remnants and wetlands. Unfortunately, today these landscapes are rare, due in part to the development caused by immigration driven population growth.

7. In Minnesota, within the Twin Cities 7 county Metro Area (SCMA), the average number of homes permitted between 2000 and 2015 was approximately 13,000 homes per year. Based on the upswing in construction the past two years, it is estimated the average annual permitted homes will approximate 18,500 for the SCMA. Assuming this permitting rate continues the next five years, by 2022

up to 92,500 new homes could be built in the larger metro area. Accepting that the average urban land use per 1,000 urban residents is 0.6 square miles or 384 acres per 1,000 urban residents³ and a [2.5 household average](#),⁴ 384 acres were developed per 400 households. This equates to about .96 acre per household or new homes constructed. Subsequently within the SCMA it is estimated that between 78,000 acres and 110,000 acres could be developed annually. Immigrants already constitute 10% of Minnesota's population.⁵ This has happened without any NEPA analysis. But now, with the Biden Administration promising and already delivering on its promise to greatly accelerate immigration, I worry that that the prairie and wetlands will only continue to be further encroached upon.

8. I am an avid a birdwatcher and student of natural history, and my enjoyment of these activities has become more and more threatened by this kind of urban sprawl and other development caused by population growth encroaching ever further into the native wildlands I cherish. While observing the natural world in Minnesota and Wisconsin, over time I have personally witnessed the dramatic decline of many species I used to readily observe. This includes endangered species such as the Western Fringed Prairie Orchid, the Piping Plover and Black Footed Ferret. These species have brought me so much enjoyment for so much of my life. Now I have to drive to more and more far-flung areas to witness them. I greatly fear that if federal government driven population growth continues or accelerates, these once abundant species will disappear altogether. My fears have been realized with the abrupt change in immigration policies imposed by the Biden Administration that have already lead to greatly accelerated population growth.

³ Numbers are calculated by the Belwin Conservancy, see <https://belwin.org/>.

⁴ See Metropolitan Council Statistics, at <https://stats.metro.state.mn.us/profile/detail.aspx?c=003>.

⁵ See Minnesota Compass, at <https://www.mncompass.org/topics/demographics/immigration>

9. This sprawl not only directly displaces native and rural habitats but has indirect affects to the environment including increased recreational pressure on adjacent open space, accelerated pollution to watersheds and air sheds, increased infra-structure that displaces yet more open space and an increase in abandoned pets particularly house cats. It is not only that roads and houses are encroaching on former wild land—even reserved public spaces feel a crush from being used by so many nearby people to recreate that never used to be the case. Motorized recreation on public lands has sharply increased as ever more people crowd into the remaining spaces for their enjoyment of nature. This increase has threatened wildland character because of the unauthorized creation of roads and trails and the associated erosion, water-quality degradation, habitat destruction and wildlife harassment. ATVs are also a major factor in the spread of noxious and invasive weeds. Over the past forty years I have personally seen the huge proliferation of motorized recreation. I have been dismayed by the loss of solitude resulting from ATVs; I have had my enjoyment of certain trails interrupted because of ATV traffic (places years ago where there no such traffic). The physical and acoustic footprint of these vehicles negatively impacts big small game and non-game species, which are sensitive excessive noise and disturbance particularly during the breeding season and throughout the winter. Displacement during winter depletes energy reserves needed for survival and reproduction by mammals and birds. Engine noise scares and disorients animals while physical tracks destroy habitat and food sources. I have to venture farther and farther into the wilderness to enjoy these twildlife species. Many animals I once enjoyed have either disappeared or left. I have also witnessed entire landscapes in Minnesota and western states succumb to invasive plant expansion over time. Invasive plant species, spread and encouraged by human activity in developments, have altered many recreation sites to the point where conditions were more hazardous for recreation.

10. In summary, the opportunity to experience natural landscapes, wild animals and wild places has drastically diminished during my lifetime. I fear my grandkids will have only a fraction of remaining

wildlands to enjoy when they are adults. This loss is driven by an ever- expanding population with an insatiable appetite for consumer goods which in turn is propelled by a broken immigration policy and the ability of Presidential Administrations to impose population growth at will, without any accountability. To sustain a quality of life that we have all grown accustomed to, we must ensure that our wildland heritage be preserved which can only be accomplished if the US Government enacts and implements a sustainable immigration policy.

11. The Biden immigration actions, if continued, are incompatible with preserving our diminished wildland heritage of Minnesota and Wisconsin without a drastic change in American lifestyle.

Additional natural landscapes could be protected from urbanization or intensive agriculture through public land acquisitions and easements but it is unclear if this would mitigate or offset an increasing population. Certainly, such policy choices ought to be disclosed and debated *before* choices like these are imposed upon Americans.

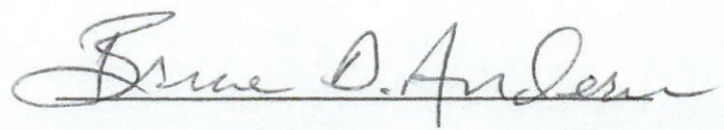
12. As a Forest Service natural resource manager, I am familiar with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)—in fact I have been responsible for various aspects of environmental analysis under NEPA myself. NEPA requires that the federal government contemplate environmentally significant actions before carrying them out. Our current system of NEPA analysis requires environmental analysis before far less significant actions than immigration. I've observed and written NEPA documents for minor federal actions such as issuing federal permits for ranchers to graze livestock, develop small water structures and treat noxious weeds yet tens of millions of people are granted permission to move to this country permanently and the government never even considers the environmental impacts? I know that it is arbitrary and capricious that none of our agencies that implement immigration policy carry out NEPA analysis.

13. One of the actions that has had a particular impact on Minnesota and the environment is the Refugee resettlement program. Minnesota is a notable destination for refugees, and the family members that follow them through chain migration. Unlike the arrangements between cattle ranchers and the Forest Service to graze cattle, the arrangements between refugee resettlement agencies and the state department are never analyzed under NEPA. In fact, they are kept secret to the local public. Yet, these arrangements directly bring the people from other countries into Minnesota. It is the perfect example illustrating that the neglect of NEPA analysis for immigration is entirely arbitrary.

14. The Biden Administration is now carrying out a flurry of actions, all aimed to accelerate migration into America faster than ever. These actions have already, and will continue, to greatly accelerate population growth. Because the Department of Homeland Security's NEPA procedures enable a complete failure for immigration agencies to analyze their actions, the Biden Administration has been able to get away with all of these actions without the process due to the American public.

15. An action that is being carried out by the Biden Administration that particularly affects Minnesota and the Twin Cities is actions is raising the numbers of refugees that will be resettled into the country. The State Department has announced that it will be awarding contracts to resettle refugees to non-governmental organizations (NGOs). There are several local branches of these NGOs in Minnesota that will resettle refugees (and may also resettle Afghan nationals arriving on a Special Immigrant Visa). These contracts will accelerate population growth in my community. But I will have no opportunity in any kind of local hearing to hear what the plans are for the Twin Cities, as NEPA ought to provide me. This is a clear violation of my rights under NEPA, which should provide public accountability and public transparency at the very least.

Executed this 27th day of August, 2021.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce D. Anderson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Bruce D. Anderson|