



## **Fortescue's chief scientist fudged his CV, court told**

Australian Financial Review

August 8, 2024 Thursday

Print & First Editions

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**Section:** COMPANIES AND MARKETS; Pg. 14

**Length:** 354 words

**Byline:** Brad Thompson

### **Body**

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**Fortescue** investigated its former chief scientist and found he misrepresented his qualifications and experience, according to an affidavit in its Federal Court dispute with green iron rival Element Zero.

An internal investigation found Bart Kolodziejczyk overstated his professional record when he applied for the role leading **Fortescue's** technical leap into green hydrogen and zero carbon iron, according to the May 1 affidavit of **Fortescue** lawyer Adrian Huber.

Dr Kolodziejczyk also clashed with executive chairman and billionaire Andrew Forrest, according to workplace correspondence from former **Fortescue** executive Julie Shuttleworth.

Dr Forrest had concerns about Dr Kolodziejczyk's conduct, namely that his criticism of colleagues threatened to create a toxic work environment. It culminated in a meeting between the pair where Dr Kolodziejczyk's job was on the line.

**Fortescue** has accused Dr Kolodziejczyk and two other former employees of stealing proprietary IP when they left to start Element Zero, which they deny. The affidavit was released by the Federal Court yesterday.

The investigation, which was redacted from the public court file, found "material misrepresentations and inaccuracies in respect of activities, positions held and qualifications listed in Dr Kolodziejczyk's Curriculum Vitae", according to Mr Huber.

During his time at **Fortescue**, Dr Forrest became unhappy with Dr Kolodziejczyk's behaviour and attitude, and Ms Shuttleworth - chief executive of what was then known as **Fortescue** Future Industries - documented this in a personal letter to the chief scientist.

It also states Dr Kolodziejczyk resigned from FFI on June 14, 2021, and then retracted his resignation the following day amid apparent conflict within **Fortescue's** green energy division over who had oversight of the green iron experiment.

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Ms Shuttleworth stated: "We are happy you have decided to stay with FFI and look forward to moving on ...this, however, will necessitate a substantial behavioural change by you and leads me to our chairman's chief concern, to your failure to be a positive and encouraging leader."

The dispute continues.

**Load-Date:** August 10, 2024

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