



TANK TIP 8

REPORTING A RELEASE

The **Storage Tank Systems for Petroleum Products and Allied Petroleum Products Regulations** require that owners and operators notify their provincial authority responsible for environmental emergency notifications of all releases in liquid form to the environment.

RELEASES THAT MUST BE REPORTED

The Regulations prohibit any release to the environment of a petroleum product or allied petroleum product in liquid form from a storage tank system. The following releases are not considered to have gone into the environment and do not have to be reported:

- a release that occurs within the secondary containment of a system
- a release contained within the transfer area of a system

However, you must enact your emergency plan for these situations. You must in particular:

- empty the secondary containment of product if applicable (**section 13**)
- withdraw the leaking component if the release is the result of a leak (see **Tank Tip 5** for more information)

For the purposes of reporting, releases to the environment include everything from **slow leaks in piping, to catastrophic tank failures, to overflow or discharges beyond your system's secondary containment or transfer area**. The Canadian Environmental Protection Act (1999) defines a release as including "discharge, spray, inject, inoculate, abandon, deposit, spill, leak, seep, pour, emit, empty, throw, dump, place and exhaust."

VERBAL NOTIFICATION

You must **notify as soon as possible** your provincial authority responsible for environmental emergency notifications, listed below, of **any release or the likelihood of a release** of product to the environment. The offices are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

You must also take all reasonable measures compatible with the protection of the environment and public safety to prevent or eliminate any dangerous conditions, or minimize any danger to the environment or to human life or health. This means enacting your emergency plan.

WRITTEN NOTIFICATION

If **100 litres or more of product** has been released in the environment, you must follow up the initial verbal notification with a written report to the designated person listed below. See **subsection 41(1)** of the Regulations for the required content of this report.



PROVINCE/TERRITORY	24-HOUR VERBAL NOTIFICATION TELEPHONE NUMBER	WRITTEN REPORT DESIGNATED PERSON
PACIFIC & YUKON REGION		
British Columbia	Emergency Management BC 1-800-663-3456	Regional Director Environment and Climate Change Canada 201-401 Burrard Street Vancouver BC V6C 3S5 Fax: 604-666-9059
Yukon	Yukon Department of Environment 867-667-7244	
PRAIRIE & NORTHERN REGION		
Alberta	Alberta Ministry of Environment and Parks 780-422-4505 or 1-800-222-6514*	Regional Director Environment and Climate Change Canada Twin Atria Building 4999-98 th Avenue NW Room 200 Edmonton AB T6B 2X3 Fax: 780-495-2451
Saskatchewan	Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment 1-800-667-7525	
Manitoba	Manitoba Ministry of Sustainable Development 204-944-4888 (collect calls accepted within the province)	
Northwest Territories	Northwest Territories Department of Environment and Natural Resource 867-920-8130	
Nunavut		
ONTARIO REGION		
Ontario	Spills Action Centre 416-325-3000 or 1-800-268-6060*	Regional Director Environment and Climate Change Canada WTC Building 867 Lakeshore Road Burlington ON L7S 1A1 Fax: 289-313-6709
QUEBEC REGION		
Quebec	National Environmental Emergencies Centre 514-283-2333 or 1-866-283-2333*	Regional Director Environment and Climate Change Canada 105 McGill Street (3 rd floor) Montreal QC H2Y 2E7 Fax: 514-496-2087
ATLANTIC REGION		
Newfoundland and Labrador	Newfoundland and Labrador Regional Office Canadian Coast Guard 709-772-2083 or 1-800-563-9089*	Regional Director Environment and Climate Change Canada Queen Square 45 Alderney Drive Dartmouth NS B2Y 2N6 Fax: 902-426-7924
New Brunswick	Maritimes Regional Office Canadian Coast Guard 902-426-6030 or 1-800-565-1633*	
Nova Scotia		
Prince Edward Island		

* accessible only within the province

For more information, visit our website

www.canada.ca/petroleum-products-storage-tanks

If the information you need is not available on our website, contact your regional office or the Storage Tank Program:

Pacific & Yukon	ec.reservoirs-pyr-tanks-pyr.ec@canada.ca	Quebec	ec.reservoirs-qc-tanks-qc.ec@canada.ca
Prairie & Northern	ec.promcon-rpn-compro-pnr.ec@canada.ca	Atlantic	ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca
Ontario	ec.promcon-on-compro.ec@canada.ca	Storage Tank Program	ec.registreservoir-tankregistry.ec@canada.ca

Disclaimer: This material has been prepared for convenience of reference and accessibility and does not have an official character. It is of a general nature only. For all purposes of interpreting and applying the Regulations, users must consult the official version of the Storage Tank Systems for Petroleum Products and Allied Petroleum Products Regulations and seek their own legal advice as appropriate.

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