

Environmental site assessments



Because Bell serves a vast territory, we own and lease numerous properties used for administrative offices, vehicle maintenance garages, switching centres, cellular and transmission towers, warehouses, etc. This real estate may be contaminated due to the activities of former owners, or from accidental spills or releases caused by Bell activities, such as the storage of petroleum products and treated wood utility poles.

To minimize the environmental impact on soil and groundwater, Bell conducts environmental site assessments prior to any real estate transaction (purchase, sale, lease or lease termination), when contamination is discovered, or at the end of an operational activity that may have contaminated a site.

The criteria for these assessments are based on provincial and federal regulations, and we undertake appropriate remediation based on the assessment findings.

Our property assessment program is driven by clear and measurable objectives:

- Take all the necessary measures to remediate or minimize the impacts to the natural environment in case of sudden or discovered contamination (e.g. spills, historic contamination); and
- establish and maintain an efficient due diligence process to minimize Bell's environmental and financial liabilities associated with soil and groundwater contamination caused by previous land users, and when leasing or selling a property, to seek to prevent any future legal action associated with known contamination.

To the extent this information sheet contains forward-looking statements including, without limitation, outlooks, plans, objectives, strategic priorities, commitments, undertakings and other statements that do not refer to historical facts, these statements are not guarantees of future performance or events, and we caution you against relying on any of these forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties and are based on assumptions that give rise to the possibility that actual results or events could differ materially from our expectations expressed in, or implied by, such forward-looking statements. Refer to BCE Inc.'s most recent annual management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), as updated in BCE Inc.'s subsequent quarterly MD&As, for further information on such risks, uncertainties and assumptions. BCE Inc.'s MD&As are available on its website at bce.ca, on SEDAR at sedar.com and on EDGAR at sec.gov.