

# Network Infrastructure

As a communications company, Bell relies on a high-performance network supported by varied infrastructure deployed across a large territory. This infrastructure consists of components that range from telecommunications towers and data hosting rooms, to manholes, pole storage sites, and aerial and underground networks. It also includes all of the equipment installed in our buildings that support the distribution of services to customers.



The wide geographical distribution of Bell's network—along with the great variety of its components—necessitates careful planning for all network deployment or infrastructure management projects. Work carried out by Bell could potentially affect natural environments and human environments. Since these environments can present specific individual characteristics, and can include sensitive, protected, or heritage areas that are covered by regulations, we study each network/infrastructure project to assess whether any potential negative environmental impact exists and apply the appropriate mitigation and/or corrective measures as necessary.

Bell seeks to ensure that practices in our operations respect the applicable laws and regulations. We developed a network infrastructure program that includes:

- Environmental assessment processes;
- The obligation to obtain the permits and authorizations required for work;
- The application of mitigation measures where required to minimize environmental impacts and seeks to ensure compliance with air and noise emission limits; and
- Good management practices for waste materials generated during operations.

The procedures of the program are embedded directly into current operational practices. They are mainly aimed at project managers responsible for network deployment, and are applied to every stage of a project—including planning, design, construction, maintenance and decommissioning of installations.

Audits of network projects are conducted annually on a sample of projects to validate adherence to laws, regulations and Bell's practices.

## Did you know?

Network infrastructure work carried out by Bell includes network design, construction, operation, and maintenance phases.

Each of these phases, if not done in accordance with Bell's environmental policies, directives, management frameworks, procedures, and standards has the potential to adversely impact the natural environment.

If not properly managed, potential adverse effects can include:

Visual nuisances  
Functional nuisances  
Noise

Which can affect...

Water Air Soil  
Flora Fauna  
Human environments

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