

Petroleum products equipment management

Bell's petroleum storage tanks are essential to meeting our day-to-day needs for heating facilities and for our back-up power generators. They are critical assets in emergencies such as the major ice storms of 1998 when areas of Montreal were without power for extended periods. Our storage tanks may be aboveground or underground. Aboveground tanks are favoured in installation and replacement projects because they are easier to secure and inspect.

We understand the environmental risks associated with every aspect of petroleum products storage and management, so our standard of care for these tanks generally surpasses the regulatory requirements placed on us by federal, provincial and U.S. state regulations (in the 6 states where Bell is present) governing the installation, operation and removal of petroleum product tanks.

Of Bell's 3,600 petroleum storage tanks, 93% are above ground. We manage and monitor our petroleum storage tanks and equipment to maintain their integrity and seek to prevent accidental spills. We perform annual inspections on every tank and conduct compliance audits as required by regulations.





Our plan for managing our equipment also includes:

- Reducing (or optimizing) the number of tanks and minimizing the installation of underground tanks.
- Replacing single-walled above-ground tanks (with a capacity above 4,000 litres and located outside buildings) with double-walled tanks.
- Ensuring that we follow the equipment inspection program rigorously.
- Executing a multi-year replacement upgrade plan to replace or upgrade tanks by priority based on a risk analysis.

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.