

Environmental incidents



At Bell, we take great care in managing environmental incidents and acting on the root cause of problems to prevent future recurrence. We strive to increase employees' awareness on preventing environmental incidents and on the importance of reporting them to our internal experts in the Corporate responsibility and environment

team. Bell has developed rigorous measures to deal with environmental incidents. These specify the steps employees must follow and the responsibilities of the different parties involved in order to adequately respond to an emergency. Our experts provide support to the employee in the control and remediation of environmental incidents involving Bell, regardless of the quantity released, the potential impact or whether the incident occurred on or away from Bell's premises and report the incident to the authorities, if required

Spills are the most common type of incident at Bell and have the greatest potential impact on the environment. To reduce the impacts associated with spills, spill response kits are available in each building where a risk exists, as well as in vehicles that contain hydraulic equipment. In addition, our petroleum storage tanks are fitted with secondary containment and any drains near these tanks are protected to avoid migration of contaminant

In summary, for 2021:

- 431 spills and releases were reported by our employees and 77% were related to leaks of halocarbons from air conditioning systems
- 25 concerns were reported by third parties
- Three environmental infractions out of 17 inspections by authorities: one administrative monetary penalty of \$5,000, one penalty of \$400 and one non-monetary non-compliance (two cases from previous years are still under dispute resolution)
- No conviction for an environmental regulatory offense or environmental regulatory order

We have clear objectives for the management of environmental incidents:

- Adopt a proactive approach to prevent environmental incidents
- Address the root causes of repetitive incidents to minimize recurrence
- Quickly remediate any situation that cannot be prevented (e.g., accidental releases)
- Ensure appropriate emergency plans are in place and tested
- Ensure all environmental incidents are reported
- Diligently manage outside-party incidents that impact Bell's assets

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- 86% of incidents were very small and below government reporting thresholds (395 of the 459 reported)
- 634 litres of hydrocarbons were accidentally spilled from vehicles, storage tanks or generators (recovered whenever possible)
- 40 litres of corrosive liquids were accidentally spilled from network batteries and recovered
- 4,825 kg of halocarbons were accidentally released from our air conditioning systems due to system failures

These incidents had a limited or no impact on the environment and were addressed diligently and in compliance with all regulatory requirements.

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