

# Oil and Gas Industry Emergency Preparedness and Response

Alberta Health Services (AHS) - Environmental Public Health (EPH) roles and responsibilities in public health emergency preparedness and response to the oil and gas industry are outlined below. The provision of services during an emergency depends upon our assessment of legislative responsibilities, impact to services, and business continuity.

*EPH will endeavor to:*

- Participate with the Licensee in the development of their Emergency Response Plans as it relates to the Environmental Public Health Program's role and responsibility.
- Provide the AHS Zone Single-Point-of-Contact (SPOC) emergency phone number to enable the Licensee to notify and alert the Zone of an emergency. From the initial notification or alert, AHS emergency response will fan out to and coordinate with other AHS programs and facilities as necessary. The 911 EMS services remain independent of the Zone SPOC notification/alert process.
- Participate with stakeholders in preparedness training and exercises associated with a Licensee's simulated activation of an Emergency Response Plan in which EPH has a role and responsibility.
- Participate in public information sessions during the Licensee's Emergency Response Plan development process when appropriate and as resources allow.
- Provide guidance to stakeholders and local municipal authorities in identifying sites suitable for establishing and operating an evacuation centre and/or reception centre, including operational requirements.
- Provide guidance to stakeholders on substances that may affect public health in consultation with the Zone Medical Officer of Health (MOH), including Alberta Health Acute Exposure Health Effects for Hydrogen Sulphide and Sulphur Dioxide information.
- Conduct assessments, inspections and give regulatory direction, when appropriate, to ensure the requirements of provincial legislation and EPH program areas of responsibilities for public health protection and disease prevention are maintained.
- Notify the Zone Medical Officer of Health of any incident affecting or potentially affecting other AHS programs or facilities. The Zone MOH will notify and coordinate emergency response in other program areas and facilities as necessary.

- Establish EPH emergency management operations, when appropriate, to support regional response efforts and liaise with the Government Emergency Operations Centre, Municipal Emergency Operations Centre and/or Industry Emergency Operations Centre, if needed.
- Assist the Zone Medical Officer of Health, local municipal authority, and Public Information/Communication officers in the development, issuance, and rescinding of public health, public evacuation and shelter-in-place advisories.
- Provide guidance to stakeholders on matters relating to evacuation of the public and/or public facilities, and the re-occupancy of those evacuated areas or facilities.
- Record and respond to health complaints or concerns from the public during and following an incident.
- Participate in stakeholder debriefings as necessary.

### **24 Hour Emergency Notification**

**Phone: 1-844-755-1788**

**Email: [edp@ahs.ca](mailto:edp@ahs.ca)**

Use the phone number and email for all notifications across Alberta.

**For more information, please contact your nearest Environmental Public Health office.**

Edmonton Main Office	780-735-1800	<a href="mailto:Edmontonzone.environmentalhealth@ahs.ca">Edmontonzone.environmentalhealth@ahs.ca</a>
Calgary Main Office	403-943-2295	<a href="mailto:Calgaryzone.environmentalhealth@ahs.ca">Calgaryzone.environmentalhealth@ahs.ca</a>
Lethbridge Main Office	403-388-6689	<a href="mailto:Southzone.environmentalhealth@ahs.ca">Southzone.environmentalhealth@ahs.ca</a>
Grande Prairie Main Office	780-513-7517	<a href="mailto:Northzone.environmentalhealth@ahs.ca">Northzone.environmentalhealth@ahs.ca</a>
Red Deer Main Office	403-356-6366	<a href="mailto:Centralzone.environmentalhealth@ahs.ca">Centralzone.environmentalhealth@ahs.ca</a>
<a href="http://www.ahs.ca/eph">www.ahs.ca/eph</a>		