

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 were critical assets in emergencies such as the major ice storms of 1998 when areas of Montréal were without power for extended periods. Our storage tanks may be aboveground or underground. Above-ground tanks are favoured in installation and replacement projects, because they are easier to secure and inspect.

Because we understand the environmental risks associated with every aspect of petroleum products storage (or management), 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 3,430 petroleum storage tanks, 93% are above ground. We manage and monitor our petroleum storage tanks and equipment to maintain their integrity and prevent accidental spills. We perform annual inspections on every tank and conduct compliance audits as required by regulations. Our rigorous plan for managing our equipment also entails:

- 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.