

# Application to Extend Spill Contingency Plan Deadline

## Note:

Regulated persons are not required to submit Spill Contingency Plans to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy. They are required to have Spill Contingency Plans that comply with the Spill Contingency Planning Regulation and must make those Spill Contingency Plans available to the ministry if they are requested by a director under the *Environmental Management Act 2003* (EMA).

Division 2.1 Spill Preparedness, Response and Recovery of EMA came into force on October 30, 2017. Section 91.11 of this amendment focuses on spill preparedness and the requirement for regulated persons to prepare Spill Contingency Plans. Spill contingency planning is a proactive obligation placed on regulated persons in order to demonstrate their capability to respond to a spill of a prescribed quantity.

The [Spill Contingency Planning Regulation](#) prescribes information that must be included in a Spill Contingency Plan. [The Spill Preparedness, Response and Recovery Regulation](#) prescribes deadlines for when Spill Contingency Plans must be completed as well as dates for when the Spill Contingency Plans are to be updated, reviewed, and tested.

The [Spill Contingency Planning fact sheet](#) outlines the requirements associated with spill contingency planning. This fact sheet explains the process a regulated person must follow should they wish to extend the date by which they must have a Spill Contingency Plan in place.

## Regulated Person

A regulated person is a person who has possession, charge, or control of liquid petroleum products – as defined in the Spill Preparedness, Response and Recovery Regulation – in the following defined quantities:

1. Any quantity being transported by pipeline
2. 10,000 litres or more transported by rail
3. 10,000 litres or more being transported by highway transporter

Note: operations regulated by the British Columbia Oil and Gas Commission are exempt from the spill contingency planning requirements in section 91.11 of EMA (see below on OGC exemption). These operations are governed by a comprehensive emergency preparedness and response system under the *Oil and Gas Activities Act 2008*.

## Deadline to prepare a Spill Contingency Plan

The Spill Contingency Planning Regulation was brought into force on October 30, 2017. Deadlines for completion of Spill Contingency Plans were established in regulation as follows:

- April 30, 2018 for pipeline and rail sectors and
- October 30, 2018 for the highway transporter sector.

Further, regulated persons in all three sectors can apply for a six-month extension to the requirement to have a Plan if the need for the extension is unavoidable and best efforts have been made to meet

the original deadline. Based on the completion of the extension application (as discussed below) the minister will determine if an extension is approved. If approval has been granted, the requirement to have a Spill Contingency Plan may be extended up to:

- October 30, 2018 for pipeline and rail sectors and
- April 30, 2019 for the highway transport sector.

Extensions are only available to regulated persons in the first year following the October 2017 approval of Division 2.1 of EMA. The regulations do not allow for extensions beyond the above noted dates. After the above noted dates, individuals conducting operations in a manner that would make them a regulated person must have a Spill Contingency Plan in place in order to be compliant with EMA (see Regulated Person fact sheet).

### Reasons for requesting an extension

Spill Contingency Plans ensure that regulated persons are prepared to address impacts to human health and the environment following a spill. While having a Spill Contingency Plan is a new requirement, regulated persons should be familiar with spill contingency planning and any additional requirements in place under other regulators, as well as longstanding industry best practices to prepare for spills.

Regulated persons must ensure that their Plans satisfy all of the content requirements outlined in the Spill Contingency Planning Regulation. Existing plans may need to be updated where content is missing or insufficient.

Given the importance of spill contingency planning to human health and the environment, extensions will be granted only when absolutely necessary. While each application will be considered and decided on based on its own merits, circumstances in which an extension may be granted include:

1. Recent major damage or loss to company resources by fire, flooding, or equivalent;
2. Significant changes to operations within the last six months such as new routes, new equipment, and/or transportation of new products;
3. Significant changes to personnel who would be involved in spill response, potentially including ownership and senior management;

4. Significant changes to relevant regulations in place under other regulators; and/or,
5. Significant after-action reviews of recent major incidents are underway which could lead to alterations or improvements to a Spill Contingency Plan.
6. Regulated persons must demonstrate that work was done to attempt to meet the original deadline and clearly articulate the steps that will be followed to achieve completion of the Spill Contingency Plan by the extended deadline.

### Process for requesting an extension

Requests must be submitted using the application form located on pages four to eight of this fact sheet.

Forms must be received by the ministry at least 30 days prior to the date on which the regulated person is required to have a Spill Contingency Plan in place under the existing initial applicable deadlines.

Section 3 of the form must provide a clear explanation as to why the extension is needed. Applicants should provide a timeline for when the issues preventing them from having a complete Spill Contingency Plan will be addressed. If an interim Plan is being used as a temporary measure, that should be stated as well, including a description of what aspects of the ministry's requirement that Plan satisfies and does not satisfy.

### Fines and Penalties

It is the responsibility of regulated persons, responsible persons, and the owners to understand and comply with the *Environmental Management Act 2003* and its associated regulations.

This document is solely for the convenience of the reader and is intended to assist in understanding the legislation and regulations, not replace them. It does not contain and should not be construed as legal advice. Current legislation and regulations should be consulted for complete information.

Failure to be in compliance can result in convictions of fines and imprisonment, as outlined in *Environmental Management Act 2003* and its associated regulations.

## **Additional Fact Sheets**

Fact sheets on other relevant topics are published by the Environmental Emergency Program are available at:

[www.gov.bc.ca/spillresponse](http://www.gov.bc.ca/spillresponse)

The complete list of available fact sheets:

- 01 Regulated Person
- 02 Responsible Person
- 03 Spill Reporting
- 04 Lessons-Learned Report
- 05 Cost Recovery
- 06 Requirement to Provide Information
- 07 Spill Contingency Planning
- 08 Testing Spill Contingency Plans
- 09 Recovery Plan

**For more information, contact the  
Environmental Emergency Program  
at: [spillresponse@gov.bc.ca](mailto:spillresponse@gov.bc.ca)**



INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM

This application form must be used by regulated persons to apply for minister approval for a one-time, six month maximum extension of the deadline for meeting the requirement for a Spill Contingency Plan that complies with the Spill Contingency Planning Regulation. The Spill Preparedness, Response and Recovery Regulation stipulates the dates when regulated persons must have Plans in place. The Spill Preparedness, Response and Recovery Regulation allows for the potential one-time, six-month maximum delay. The table below specifies the relevant dates for having Plans and applying for a delay.

Table with 3 rows and 2 columns. Columns: Pipeline or railway, Highway transporter. Rows: Date Spill Contingency Plans are required, Date that the application form must be received by, Latest possible deadline.

The minister will use the content provided in this form to determine if an extension will be granted. For an application form to be accepted, all fields must be complete and it must be signed by an authorized representative of the regulated person who is requesting the extension.

Complete forms must be received by the ministry at least 30 days prior to the original date upon which the regulated person applying would have been required to have a Spill Contingency Plan in place. Application forms can be printed, filled in by hand, and submitted via courier or email.

- Courier: Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, Attn: Environmental Emergency Program, 4th Floor, 2975 Jutland Road, Victoria BC, V8T 5J9
Email: Email spillresponse@gov.bc.ca using the subject line: Application to extend Spill Contingency Plan deadline. Application forms must be attached as a PDF file



**SECTION 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION**

<b>Name of applicant (regulated person)</b> Individual, corporation, or partnership	
<b>Doing business as</b> If applicable	
<b>Contact name, telephone number, and email</b> An individual that ministry staff can contact on behalf of the regulated person regarding this application form	
<b>Legal address of the operation</b> The legal address for which the individual, corporation, or partnership is a regulated person	
<b>Mailing address</b> If different than the above noted legal address	

**SECTION 2: PURPOSE OF APPLICATION**

**Indicate the type of operation for which the applicant is a regulated person (select one only):**

- Pipeline [application form must be received by March 30, 2018]
- Railway [application form must be received by March 30, 2018]
- Highway transporter [application form must be received by September 30, 2018]



List the substance(s) for which the applicant is a regulated person:

Substances must be listed as they appear in column 1 of the schedule section in the Spill Preparedness, Response and Recovery Regulation

State the requested date by which the applicant will have a complete Spill Contingency Plan prepared:

DAY-MONTH-YEAR

- Date for pipeline operations cannot be later than 30 October 2018
• Date for rail operations cannot be later than 30 October 2018
• Date for highway transporters cannot be later than 30 April 2019

SECTION 3: REQUEST FOR DELAY

Part 2 - The Spill Contingency Planning Regulation outlines more than 11 sections of content that is required in Spill Contingency Plans. Indicate below the sections for which the delay is being requested.

Table with 2 columns and 6 rows listing spill contingency plan sections: Sec 3: Contents of Spill Contingency Plan, Sec 4: Hazard assessment, Sec 5: Spill response planning map, Sec 6: Equipment, personnel, and other resources, Sec 7: Incident Command System, Sec 8: Human health and safety, Sec 9: Communication procedures, Sec 10: Waste management, Sec 11: Wildlife, Sec 12: Spill response procedures, Sec 13: Training.



**Please provide detailed information explaining why an extension is necessary. Applicants should provide a timeline for when the issues preventing the applicant from having a Spill Contingency Plan by the prescribed date will be addressed. If an interim Plan is being used as a temporary measure, that should be stated as well, including a description of what aspects of the ministry's requirement that Plan satisfies and does not satisfy. Ensure sufficient evidence is provided to support the statements made in this submission. If additional space is required to submit all of the necessary information, please include additional pages or supporting documents as an attachment to the application form.**

**SECTION 5: SIGNATURE CERTIFYING THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IS TRUE, COMPLETE, AND ACCURATE**

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Print name of authorized representative of the regulated person

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Signature of authorized representative

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Date when completed form was signed [day-month-year]

By signing this document, the authorized representative of the regulated person certifies that the information provided in this form is true, complete, and accurate and acknowledges that submission of insufficient information may result in this application being returned, causing delays in the review/approval process.