

# PORT ALBERNI

## Environmental Emergency (E2) Regulation Information

### THE ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY (E2) REGULATIONS

The Government of Canada has updated the Environmental Emergency (E2) regulations requiring facilities storing specific quantities of certain substances to notify members of the public who might be impacted by a serious chemical emergency. The substance identified in the E2 Regulation that is used at the Catalyst Paper Port Alberni mill is Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>).

### CATALYST PAPER VALUES

At the Catalyst Paper Port Alberni mill we work hard to ensure employee and community safety, and protection of the environment. Our safety & environmental programs meet or exceed regulatory compliance, and include extensive employee training, facility maintenance and emergency response planning and testing. All these measures are aimed at keeping people and the environment safe.

Emergency management has been a part of the Port Alberni mill's operating practices for several decades. Our site's Emergency Response Plan is continuously updated to reflect regulatory changes and industry best practices.



### SAFE USE OF SULPHUR DIOXIDE AT THE MILL

SO<sub>2</sub> has been used safely in Port Alberni since 1956 and there have been no incidents in our history which impacted the community. SO<sub>2</sub> is a raw chemical used in the process to brighten pulp stock before it is turned into paper. It is liquefied by compression and is shipped to the mill in truck tanker trailers and stored under pressure. Gaseous SO<sub>2</sub> is 2.25 times heavier than air so, in the event of a leak, it tends to concentrate in low lying areas. The mill's current SO<sub>2</sub> tank was installed in 1989. As a safety measure the tank is never filled above 85% capacity.

### WHAT IS SULPHUR DIOXIDE?

Sulphur Dioxide is a colourless gas. At low concentrations it will have a noticeable irritating odour. At high concentrations it is a serious respiratory hazard that can cause breathing difficulties and in extremely high concentrations it can be life threatening.

### PREVENTION & MITIGATION

- Regular inspections & testing of the storage tank and associated systems.
- Continuous, automatic monitoring and alarms to detect SO<sub>2</sub> leaks - monitored by mill personnel 24/7.
- Trained & equipped Dept. Operators
- Emergency Response Team capable of 24/7 Hazmat response.
- Regularly scheduled ERT practices & joint ERT & RMT Emergency Response Plan exercises.

For non-emergency questions relating to E2, please contact [E2inquiriesalberni@catalystpaper.com](mailto:E2inquiriesalberni@catalystpaper.com)



Emergency Response Team (ERT) members perform decontamination of a Hazmat entry team during a SO<sub>2</sub> release exercise.

### WHAT TO EXPECT THE MILLS RESPONSE TO BE IF A SO<sub>2</sub> ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY OCCURS?

- Activation of the mill's long established and tested Emergency Response Plan.
- Call out of the Emergency Response Team.
- Our Response Management Team will be established at a mill-based or off-site command center.
- Communication to public (if potential impact) in coordination with local emergency agencies

### WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF A SO<sub>2</sub> ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY OCCURS?

Initial communication regarding any environmental emergency will come from the Catalyst Paper Port Alberni mill to local emergency responders. Notification methods to the public will depend upon the event, and may include in person, local radio and/or social media communication. Catalyst Paper Port Alberni, in conjunction with the ACRD's Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), may issue instructions to evacuate or shelter in place. Please follow the directions provided.

### IMPROVING COMMUNICATION METHODS

Catalyst Paper Port Alberni is committed to working with local emergency agencies to strengthen how the public would be notified of emergencies and how they are to respond.

The mill has had preliminary discussions with the ACRD & the Port Alberni Fire Dept. regarding the

use of the Tsunami Warning system as a means of notifying the public of a hazardous material release.

The ACRD also plans to implement an Emergency Notification System in the fall of 2020, allowing residents of the Alberni Valley to self-register to receive emergency notifications, via text, phone call, and email regarding local emergencies.

### YOU CARE – WE CARE

At Catalyst Paper we work diligently to care for employees, the community and the environment. The best response to any emergency is prevention, and this is why we follow stringent safety management standards. We also believe in being prepared, including working closely with the Alberni Clayoquot Regional District and other community stakeholders.

The Catalyst Paper Port Alberni mill has a strong record of being environmental emergency free, and we plan to stay that way.

Safety is of prime importance in all activities at Catalyst Paper. This philosophy is expressed in the following "Core Safety Values and Beliefs"

- All injuries can be prevented
- Safety has an overriding priority
- Involvement in safety is essential
- Safety is a line responsibility
- Safety is built-in to every job
- Success in safety is contagious



For further information as it becomes available please visit the following links:

- [ACRD Emergency Preparedness](#)
- [City of Port Alberni](#)

For non-emergency questions relating to E2, please  
contact [E2inquiriesalberni@catalystpaper.com](mailto:E2inquiriesalberni@catalystpaper.com)