

Role of MOE in Spills

Sept, 2004

MOE

**Lead regulatory agency for most
spills in Ontario**

**Ministry plans and procedures for
dealing with spills and related
emergencies focus on
environmental concerns and are
subordinate to those that deal with
protection of life and property.**

MOE-Spills Action Centre

Immediate province-wide, toll-free service for receiving, assessing and coordinating responses to spills and related occurrences.

MOE

Network of additional resources including hazardous substances expertise, air or water modeling/monitoring and laboratory testing capabilities.

Field response by district environmental officers during the day and ERP during the after-hours (within a reasonable time).

MOE

SCOPE OF ACTIONS - SPILLS

Enforce duties and legislation.

Communicate with internal and external contacts/ agencies.

Recommend spill prevention measures.

Document all findings, actions and recommendations (sample, photos, video, field notes, etc).

MOE

SCOPE OF ACTIONS - SPILLS

Determine nature and extent of environmental damage.

Recommend response procedures.

Evaluate containment, cleanup and disposal

Initiate cleanup procedures when required.

MOE ACTIONS



Roles and Responsibilities, July 2004

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MOE

THREE FIELD RESPONSE LEVELS

LEVEL 1 - DISTRICT (ERP after-hrs)

LEVEL 2 - REGION

LEVEL 3 - HEAD OFFICE

PLUS: SPILLS ACTION CENTRE

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Humber River Spill

2004/07/27

Humber River Spill

**2004/07/27 10:18 Spills Action
Centre advised of blue
staining in Humber river near
Humber college**

**SAC notifies municipality,
Toronto MOE office,
Environment Canada, MNR,
TRCA**

Humber river spill

**MOE, Works, TRCA, MNR
attend.**

**MOE contacts TRCA to meet
onsite, briefed,**

Works identifies source

Attend source location

Humber River College

**Speak to owner/controller of
spill, brief company on
incident and adverse effects**

**Go down to river outfall with
company, MOE, Works, MNR,
TRCA**

**Company advised of cleanup
duties under EPA, Part X**

Humber River spill

**River Sampling conducted,
upstream and affected areas**

**Environment Canada attends
site, briefed and consideration
of Fisheries Act violation**

Returned to source location

**Provincial Officer Order issued
to company**

Humber River spill

Sampled catchbasin

**Company hired cleanup
contractor**

**Followup by MOE staff to
ensure cleanup compliance of
order**