

Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG)

Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG) - Reporting Requirements

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What types of reports are required by the Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG) Act and Regulations?

Depending on the type of incident and mode of transportation, certain TDG reports are required, including:

- For a release or anticipated release of dangerous goods:
 - Emergency report when there is a release or anticipated release
 - Release or anticipated release report, and
 - A Release or anticipated release 30-day follow-up report
- A “Loss or theft report” for lost or stolen dangerous goods.
- An “Unlawful interference report” for illegal or unauthorized interference with the dangerous goods.

Air transportation also requires an undeclared or mis declared dangerous goods report.

This OSH Answers document will focus mainly on reporting requirements for road transportation.

Note: The information below is provided as guidance only. Always check with Transport Canada and the [TDG Act and Regulations](#) to ensure compliance. Transport Canada has issued a guide titled "[Guide for reporting dangerous goods incidents](#)."

Please also see the following documents in this series:

- [TDG - Overview](#)
- [TDG - Training](#)
- [TDG - Classification](#)
- [TDG – Nine Classes](#)
- [TDG – "Special Case" and "Special Provision" Exemptions](#)
- [TDG – Emergency Response](#)

What is the TDG definition of a release?

A "release" of dangerous goods is defined in the [TDG Act](#) as:

"(a) a discharge, emission, explosion, outgassing or other escape of dangerous goods, or any component or compound evolving from dangerous goods, from a means of containment being used to handle or transport the dangerous goods, or

(b) an emission, from a means of containment being used to handle or transport dangerous goods, of ionizing radiation that exceeds a level or limit established under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*;"

For example, the following incidents would meet the definition for a release:

- A tank is punctured in an accident and gasoline drizzles out.
- A test tube containing infectious material falls to the ground and breaks during preparation for transport.
- A pallet of damaged lithium batteries releases hydrogen and catches fire.
- Gases endanger public safety while venting the container.

What is the definition for unlawful interference?

Unlawful interference is not directly defined in the TDG Act or Regulations. However, dictionaries define "unlawful" as illegal or not morally right or conventional. Examples of interferences with dangerous goods that may be considered unlawful include:

- The dangerous good in a container do not match the safety marks displayed on it. For example, filling propane cylinders with ammonia which is used to make illegal drugs. In this situation, the cylinder will bear safety marks for propane instead for ammonia.
- A means of containment that is purposely vandalized, damaged, or altered (e.g., a cylinder valve that is purposely damaged or altered, a tank is broken on purpose, etc.)
- Shipping document information that is purposely altered.

Who should report a dangerous good incident?

The person in charge (e.g., driver, consigner/shipper, etc.) of the dangerous goods at the time of the incident is responsible to report a dangerous occurrence as defined in [Part 8](#), section 8.1 of the TDG Regulations.

When does a released or anticipated release incident need to be reported to the authorities?

A release or anticipated release must be reported to the authorities when:

- the dangerous goods are, or could be, in excess of the quantity set out in in Section 8.2 in the TDG Regulations (which is reproduced below in Table 1), and
- if it could endanger public safety.

Table 1: Reporting requirements: Quantity of dangerous goods release and anticipated release [TDG Regulations, S. 8.2]

Class	Packing Group or Category	Quantity
1	II	Any quantity
2	Not applicable	Any quantity
3, 4, 5, 6.1 or 8	I or II	Any quantity
3, 4, 5, 6.1 or 8	III, or without packing group	30 L or 30 kg
6.2	A or B	Any quantity
7	Not applicable	A level of ionizing radiation greater than the level established in section 39 of the <i>Packaging and Transport of Nuclear Substances Regulations, 2015</i>
9	II or III, or without packing group	30 L or 30 kg

Which authorities must be notified?

A verbal emergency report must be made to any local authority that is responsible for responding to emergencies at the location of the release or anticipated release. Generally, local authorities can be reached by calling 911. See Table 2 for contact information.

In addition to notifying the local authorities, the following other authorities may need to be notified:

- Provincial dangerous goods authorities
- Provincial environmental authorities (e.g., spill centers)

Table 2: Contact information for reporting dangerous goods incidents during road transportation

Province	Authority
Alberta	911 (or local police) and relevant provincial authorities (1-800-272-9600)
British Columbia	911 (or local police) and Provincial Emergency Program (1-800-663-3456)
Prince Edward Island	911 (or local police)
Manitoba	911 (local police or fire department) and Sustainable Development (1-855-944-4888)
New Brunswick	911 (or local police)
Nova Scotia	911 (or local police)
Ontario	911 (or local police)
Quebec	911 (or local police) or Canadian Coast Guard (1-800-363-4735)
Saskatchewan	Local police, Spill Control Centre (1-800-667-7525))
Newfoundland and Labrador	911 (or local police)
Nunavut Territory	911 (or local police) and relevant authorities (867-920-8130)
Nunavut Territory and arctic waters (waters north of the Northwest and Yukon Territories)	Canadian Coast Guard (1-800-265-0237)
Yukon Territory	911 (or local police) and relevant authorities (867-667-7244)
Northwest Territories	911 (or local police) and relevant authorities (867-920-8130)
CANUTEC	1-888-CAN-UTEC (226-8832), 613-996-6666, or *666 on a cellular phone
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission	CNSC duty officer emergency line (613-995-0479)
Natural Resources	613-995-5555

What information must be included in these TDG reports?

The details required in each report are outlined in [Section 8](#) of the TDG Regulations. Specifically:

- Section 8.3 - Emergency Report — Road, Rail or Marine
- Section 8.4 - Release or Anticipated Release Report — Road, Rail or Marine
- Section 8.5 - Information to be Included in a Release or Anticipated Release Report — Road, Rail or Marine
- Section 8.7 - Information to be Included in a 30-Day Follow-up Report
- Section 8.9 - Dangerous Goods Accident or Incident Report — Air
- Section 8.10 - Information to be Included in a Dangerous Goods Accident or Incident Report — Air
- Section 8.12 - Information to be Included in a 30-Day Follow-up Report (Air)
- Section 8.15 - Undeclared or Misdeclared Dangerous Goods Report (Air)
- Section 8.15.2 - Information to be Included in a Dangerous Goods Occurrence Report (ICAO) (Air)
- Section 8.17 - Loss or Theft Report
- Section 8.19 - Unlawful interference report: TDG Regulations
- Section 8.23 - Information to be Included in an ERAP Implementation Report

Who must submit the incident reports, when, and how?

These reporting requirements are listed in Table 3.

Table 3: TDG Reporting Requirements

Types of report	Who must make the report?	When is the report required?	Who should receive the report?	Method of reporting	Is a 30-day follow up report required
Emergency report	Person who has the charge management or control of the dangerous goods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As soon as possible • if the dangerous goods are, or could be, in excess of the quantity set out in in Section 8.2 Table of Part 8 in the TDG Regulations and if the release endangers or could endanger public safety. 	Local authorities responsible for emergency response.	Telephone (Verbal)	No
Release or anticipated release report	Person who made the emergency report	<p>A report is required when there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a death of a person 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CANUTEC at 1-888-CANUTEC (1-888-226-8832) or 613-996-6666 • The consignor (shipper) 	Telephone Followed by a written report	Yes

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a person sustaining injuries that required immediate medical treatment by a health care provider • an evacuation of people or their shelter in place • the closure of a facility, road, a main railway line, or a main waterway • a means of containment has been damaged • the centre sill or stub sill of a tank car is broken or there is a crack in the metal equal to or greater than 15 cm (6 in.). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the case of dangerous goods included in Class 7, Radioactive Materials, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) 		
Loss or theft report	Any person who had the charge,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As soon as possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CANUTEC at 1-888-CANUTEC 	Telephone (verbal)	No

	management or control of the dangerous goods before the loss or theft	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the case of loss or theft when the quantity of the dangerous goods is above the quantities in Subsection 8.16 (2) of the TDG Regulations 	<p>(1-888-226-8832) or 613-996-6666</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the case of explosives, Natural Resources Canada (NRC) In the case of dangerous goods included in Class 7, Radioactive Materials, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) 		
Unlawful interference report	Person who has the charge, management or control of the dangerous goods	As soon as possible after it is discovered that the dangerous goods have been unlawfully interfered with.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CANUTEC at 1-888-CANUTEC (1-888-226-8832) or 613-996-6666; In the case of explosives, Natural Resources Canada (NRC) 	Telephone (verbal)	No

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the case of dangerous goods included in Class 7, Radioactive Materials, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) 		
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Adapted from Alberta EDGE (Environmental and Dangerous Goods Emergencies, Government of Alberta, (2021). [Reporting Requirements](#).

When is a 30-day report required?

A 30-day follow-up report is required when a release or anticipated release report was filed. A 30-day follow-up report is needed when the person who has the charge, management, or control of a means of containment:

- Has had to make a Release or Anticipated Release Report – Road, Rail or Marine by telephone
- Has had to make a Dangerous Goods Accident or Incident Report – Air
- When the person who made the 30-Day Follow-up Report must make an addition or amendment to a 30-day Follow-up Report.

A [30-day follow-up report form](#) is available from Transport Canada.

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