

Release of Industrial Wastewater from Burst Pipe Results in \$350,000 in Penalties



Environment Canada responded to a report of the release of 852,000 litres of industrial wastewater into muskeg and a small unnamed creek and found hundreds of dead fish downstream of the spill. Environment Canada and Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development conducted a joint investigation, which found the wastewater had been generated from the processing of natural gas and liquid hydrocarbons at a facility and was being transported by an underground pipeline when the pipeline ruptured. The facility pleaded guilty to one violation of the federal *Fisheries Act* and one violation of Alberta environmental law. The court ordered it to pay a \$15,000 federal fine, \$185,000 to the Environmental Damages Fund and \$150,000 for the provincial offence [*SemCAMS ULC*, Govt. News Release, Dec. 27, 2013].