

NORTHWEST
TERRITORIES

BUILDING OUR UNION



UNIFOR

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Department, 2013

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HS-E-4092



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You have
the right to
**refuse
unsafe
work.**

use it!



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HOW THE RIGHT TO REFUSE WORKS

Under Section 13 of the Northwest Territories Safety Act, you have the right to refuse unsafe or unhealthy work.

If you have reason to believe the work is likely to endanger you or someone else this what you do.

WORKER

Report the problem to your employer or supervisor and a union member of the health and safety committee. It is illegal for the employer to discipline workers for refusing unsafe work (Section 22).

EMPLOYER

Investigates in the presence of the worker, the union representative or co-worker selected by the worker and remedies the problem.

WORKER

If you still believe there are reasonable grounds to refuse, the employer, supervisor

or worker must notify the health and safety committee, or where there is no committee, a delegate of the chief safety officer.

HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE OR OFFICER

Investigates within 24 hours in the presence of the worker and the employer and decides whether unusual danger exists or is likely to exist and orders remedial action.

WORKERS

Until the decision you should remain in a safe place or you may be reassigned to temporary alternative work at no loss in pay. No other worker shall perform the work until the unusual danger no longer exists.

APEALS

You may appeal the decision of the safety officer to the chief safety officer within 30 days (Section 16). You may appeal the chief safety officer's decision to a judge of the Supreme Court within 10 days (Section 17). You challenge unfair discipline by putting in a grievance or asking the officer to prosecute your employer (Section 22).