

YUKON
TERRITORY

BUILDING OUR UNION



UNIFOR

Health and Safety
Department, 2013

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HS-E-4091



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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 15 of the Yukon Occupational Health and Safety Act, you have the right to refuse work that endangers you or another worker.

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 18).

EMPLOYER (SUPERVISOR)

Investigates in the presence of the worker and a worker member of the health and safety committee or another worker you select, and takes remedial action.

WORKER

If you still believe there is a reasonable case to continue to refuse, your employer or supervisor must notify a safety officer.

SAFETY OFFICER

Investigates and orders remedial action.

WORKERS

Until the safety officer's decision is made, remain in a safe place near your work station or you may be reassigned reasonable alternate work at no loss in pay. No other worker can be assigned the work pending the safety officer's decision unless advised of the refusal and your reasons.

APPEALS

You may appeal the safety officer's decision to the director within 7 days (Section 17). You challenge unfair discipline by putting in a grievance or asking the officer to prosecute the employer (Section 18).