

# driver distraction practice

## purpose

Studies across North America and around the world clearly show a correlation between driver distractions such as cell phone use, and unsafe vehicle operation. This practice provides direction to Encana staff (Encana employees and contractors) regarding driver distractions and is aligned with Encana's overall approach to identification of hazards in the workplace and application of appropriate controls to reduce risk.

## application

This practice is effective March 1, 2008 and applies to Encana staff using any electronic devices while driving a company vehicle or a personal/rental vehicle on company business. Use of electronic devices while stopped and legally parked in a safe location is acceptable. Reaching a point of being stopped and legally parked must be undertaken in a safe manner in compliance with the rules of the road.

## responsibilities/general rules

This practice applies to use of electronic devices including, without limitation, the following:

### cell phone (including personal digital assistant (PDA) cell phone function)

Encana prohibits the use of a cell phone (both hand-held and hands-free) while driving either a company vehicle or a personal/rental vehicle on company business. Use of a cell phone while driving presents a hazard to the driver, other workers and the general public. This requirement is consistent with Encana's commitment to continuously improve safety at our workplaces and in the communities in which we live, work and operate. Encana believes that this is the right thing to do.

Encana will support this by:

- placing stickers in all company vehicles to remind the operator to refrain from cell phone use while driving
- providing options to enable Encana staff to forward calls to another individual or to an answering service while driving

### PDA (e.g., BlackBerry, Palm Pilot) including email and internet functions and pager (and other text message devices)

Encana staff are prohibited from using these devices for any purpose while driving a company vehicle or a personal/rental vehicle on company business.

### two-way radio

Two-way radio use is essential in some operating areas as it is the primary means of communication and, on certain radio controlled roads, such use is mandated. Two-way radio use is permitted where essential business-related communication is required while driving a company vehicle or a personal/rental vehicle on company business, provided that use while stationary and parked is not possible. Mounting of the radio and microphone should take into account the ease of use of the driver.

### global positioning system (GPS) (portable or fixed) and satellite radio (portable)

Encana staff are prohibited from programming or adjusting these devices for any purpose while driving a company vehicle or a personal/rental vehicle on company business. Make every opportunity to activate these devices while stopped and parked safely.

### ear buds, head phones, video games and DVD players

Encana staff are prohibited from using these devices while driving. Impairment to hearing affects a driver's ability to identify and respond to warning signals, and visual distractions detract from concentration on driving.

### other driver distractions (e.g., eating, drinking, grooming, smoking, reading, passengers)

There are countless distractions that can put safe vehicle operation at risk. Encana staff driving a company vehicle or a personal/rental vehicle on company business must be aware of all distractions and minimize the risk to themselves, other workers and the general public.

## laws, regulations and enforcement

Where driver distraction laws exist in a jurisdiction staff are required to meet whichever of the two is most stringent.

Encana staff who cause or contribute to a collision, or are observed driving unsafely while using a cell phone or other device, could be charged under applicable laws including, without limitation, dangerous driving, careless or reckless driving and criminal negligence causing death or injury.

Encana staff charged with traffic and/or other infractions as a result of use of electronic devices while driving will be responsible for paying any fines, penalties and/or associated costs. Infractions attributable to driver distraction will be addressed by supervisors and by Encana Human Resources should they occur.

Encana staff involved in a collision while on company business or operating a company vehicle will be subject to an incident investigation including, without limitation, confirmation of adherence to this practice.

Disciplinary action will be taken for violations of this practice, up to and including termination of employment.

## management of change

Proposed changes to this practice can be directed to the Corporate EH&S group or [ehsms@encana.com](mailto:ehsms@encana.com)