

Alberta

As a CUPE member in Alberta YOU have the legal right to refuse unsafe work, according to the Occupational Health and Safety Act – Section 35, when an imminent danger (a danger that is not normal for the occupation or activity) exists for YOU or another worker, caused by a tool, appliance, equipment or work procedure at the worksite.

Here's how YOU can refuse unsafe work...

1. When an imminent danger exists at your worksite, you can refuse work.
2. Notify your employer at the worksite, and state your reason for refusal.
3. The employer must investigate and take action to eliminate the danger. There must be a written record of your notification, the investigation, and action taken. A copy of the report must be provided to you.
4. If, in your opinion, a danger still exists, you can file a complaint with a government Occupational Health and Safety Officer.
5. The officer shall investigate the complaint, and document actions taken in a written report. A copy of the report must be provided to you.
6. If you are not satisfied with the officer's report, you may appeal the report within 30 days, and request a review by the Occupational Health and Safety Council.

YOU cannot be disciplined or dismissed for complying with the legislation, according to the Occupational Health and Safety Act – Section 36.

You have the legal right to a healthy and safe workplace.

For more information or assistance, contact your local union health and safety representative, your union executive, your CUPE representative or the CUPE National Health and Safety Branch at:

Canadian Union of Public Employees

National Health and Safety Branch

1375 St. Laurent Blvd.

Ottawa, Ontario K1G -0Z7

Tel. (613) 237-1590

Fax (613) 237-5508

Email: Health_safety@cupe.ca