

Blasting One Pager

Blasting involves the controlled use of explosives to change the landscape.

What you need to know:

- Regulation and Safety: WorkSafeBC oversees all blasting activities in British Columbia, ensuring workplace safety and certifying blasting professionals.
- Insurance Compliance: Blasting companies must also follow the requirements of their insurance provider.
- Permits: In some jurisdictions, a Blasting Notification Permit is needed before any blasting work can begin. **The District of Ucluelet does not currently have a bylaw that regulates blasting and does not issue blasting permits.** However, if the work being done requires a building permit, including excavation, they will need to receive a building permit prior to beginning any blasting or rock removal activities.
- Noise Bylaw: A person may only blast, carry on blasting operations, use an explosive agent, or operate drills, compressors or other equipment used to prepare land for blasting, during the times specified in Section 4 of *Bylaw No. 915, 2003, A Bylaw to Regulate Noise in the District of Ucluelet*. (Between 7a.m. to 10 p.m. - Monday through Sunday)

Who to Contact for information about Blasting taking place in your area

If you have received notification that blasting is taking place in your area, further questions regarding blasting should be directed to the blasting contact. This includes concerns or questions about the duration of blasting, pre-blast surveys, property damage and warning signals.

Safe blasting practices are dictated and enforced by WorkSafeBC. This includes the certification of those that carry out blasting. Blaster must maintain a valid blasters certificate issued by WorkSafeBC. Please contact WorkSafeBC with any safety concerns around blasting activities taking place in your area.

Complaints about Blasting

All complaints regarding blasting should go to the blasting company first to attempt resolution. If no satisfactory resolution is found, please contact WorkSafeBC at 1-800-621-7233 to provide details of the blasting complaint. In the unfortunate case that you suspect that the blasting may have caused damage to your home or property, please contact both the blasting company as well as your own insurance provider. All damage claims associated with blasting must be managed and settled directly between the blasting company and the claimant.

Blasting is also provincially regulated by the following agencies or ministries under their respective areas of responsibility:

- The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is concerned with the movement of explosives.
- The Ministry of Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources is concerned with blasting techniques.
- Natural Resources Canada is concerned with the proper handling and storage of blasting materials.