

SECTION 14 INCIDENT REPORT (*Waste Management and Pollution Control Act*)

Date and Time of Notification:	Thursday, 10 January 2019
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation
Incident:	Sewage overflow from a vacuum pit adjacent to 81 O'Ferrals Road, Bayview

(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution	<p>Sewage overflowed from a vacuum access pit to the adjacent land and stormwater pit.</p> <p>PWC was notified of the overflow via a low vacuum alarm within the vacuum pit. Once PWC operations staff are notified they attend site to identify and fix the fault.</p> <p>The sewerage catchments consist mainly of residential dwellings, it would be expected that the waste would be faecal matter and associated gross pollutants (earbuds, tissues, rags, sanitary items etc.).</p> <p>Only wastewater escaped the pit, no gross pollutants were found e.g. (earbuds, tissues, rags, sanitary items etc.). The vacuum pit lid weights approx. 90kg. The water pressure is only able to lift the lid a couple of millimetres, which prevent debris etc. from escaping.</p> <p>No water sampling was conducted at the site.</p> <p>PWCs operations staffs were able to reach into the pit to open the valve. A vacuum truck was then called to remove wastewater from the access chamber and pit to allow access. Once the repair was completed the clean-up process commenced.</p>
(b) the place where the incident occurred	Vacuum pit at 81 O'Ferrals Road, Bayview.

(c) the date and time of the incident	09/01/2019 approx. 7:20pm
(d) how the pollution has occurred, is occurring or may occur	Controller in pit failed. Due to the large amount of units which is serviced by this vacuum pit there was a surcharge out of the access chamber. It is estimated approximately 2500 litres surcharged.
(e) the attempts made to prevent, reduce, control, rectify or clean up the pollution or resultant environmental harm caused or threatening to be caused by the incident	<p>The failed controller was replaced, a vac truck removed sewage from the access chamber, ground and stormwater drain. The site was then cleaned as per PWC sewerage spill overflow response work instruction (see attached).</p> <p>A vacuum truck removed wastewater from the access pit and surrounding environment allowing PWCs operations staff access to the pit and access chamber. The vac truck removed an estimated 2500lts from the stormwater pit, nature strip and access chamber.</p> <p>Fencing and signage was installed for approximately 48 hours. The affected soil was then removed and replaced with clean top soil.</p>
(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	Jennifer Bentley on behalf of Water Services, PWC.