

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

<b>Date and Time of Notification:</b>	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2022, 16:00hrs
<b>Person / Company:</b>	Power and Water Corporation ( <b>PWC</b> )
<b>Incident:</b>	Discharge of raw sewage from sewerage network (no gross pollutants)

<p><b>(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution</b></p>	<p><i>i. Description of the waste that was discharged.</i></p> <p>Raw sewage (no gross pollutants)</p> <p><i>ii. Indicative wastewater quality for the discharge.</i></p> <p>Indicative wastewater quality for this overflow can be found in Table 1. As the overflow occurred from a residential access chamber manhole cover, and there was zero rainfall leading up to the overflow, the overflow can be assumed to be undiluted.</p> <p><b>Table 1: Inflows to Ludmilla WWTP</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Median Inflow (ML)</th> <th>Median E. coli</th> <th>Median Enterococci</th> <th>Dilution Terminology</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>below ADWF</td> <td>11.401</td> <td>14,136,000</td> <td>713,550</td> <td>Undiluted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>&gt;ADWF</td> <td>13.253</td> <td>11,616,000</td> <td>727,000</td> <td>Partially Diluted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>&gt;2xADWF</td> <td>29.629</td> <td>8,164,000</td> <td>323,000</td> <td>Diluted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>&gt;3xADWF</td> <td>44.043</td> <td>6,488,000</td> <td>261,300</td> <td rowspan="3">Highly diluted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>&gt;4xADWF</td> <td>51.048</td> <td>5,634,500</td> <td>238,100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>&gt;5xADWF</td> <td>99.841</td> <td>2,359,000</td> <td>218,700</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>NOTE: Based on 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2020 inflows to Ludmilla WWTP and monitoring events data. Average dry weather inflow being 11.9012 ML/day.</p> <p><i>iii. Volume of the waste that was discharged.</i></p> <p>The volume of waste discharged is unknown. No telemetric monitoring occurs at the site of discharge. It was estimated to be less than 5KL.</p>		Median Inflow (ML)	Median E. coli	Median Enterococci	Dilution Terminology	below ADWF	11.401	14,136,000	713,550	Undiluted	>ADWF	13.253	11,616,000	727,000	Partially Diluted	>2xADWF	29.629	8,164,000	323,000	Diluted	>3xADWF	44.043	6,488,000	261,300	Highly diluted	>4xADWF	51.048	5,634,500	238,100	>5xADWF	99.841	2,359,000	218,700
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<p><b>(b) the place where the incident occurred</b></p>	<p><i>i. Description of the PWC asset from which the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>Sewer access chamber manhole cover at the back of 20 Gothenburg Crescent, Stuart Park.</p> <p><i>ii. GPS coordinates of the discharge point from the PWC asset, and the final coordinates of the final discharge point.</i></p> <p>1. Discharge Point: 130.8455593 E, -12.4502991 S (manhole cover)</p>																																	

	<p>2. Final discharge point: 130.8457651 E, -12.4498961 S (stormwater drain)</p> <p><i>iii. Indicate any locations nearby to the discharge point where public can gain ready-access, such as public open spaces through which the discharge moves.</i></p> <p>Access to the public was possible for a short period of time, along a small section of the road verge at 20 Gothenburg Crescent, Stuart Park, whilst the cause of the spill was being rectified and the area was cleaned and disinfected.</p>
<p><b>(c) the date and time of the incident</b></p>	<p><i>i. The time and date of commencement and cessation of the discharge.</i></p> <p>The commencement time of the spill is unknown, but believed to be shortly before 16:47hrs on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022, when the spill was first observed by the reticulation field repair crew. The spill was stopped a short time later at 17:15hrs, 26th May 2022.</p> <p><i>ii. How PWC were notified, or became aware of the discharge.</i></p> <p>One of the residents living at 20 Gothenburg Crescent called the PWC call centre, who then requested the reticulation field repair crew to attend.</p> <p><i>iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>The cause of the spill was due to a partial or full blockage in the sewer line, which resulted from a build-up of fats and rags. Fat and other non-disintegrating items like wet wipes and kitchen paper towels have been incorrectly disposed of into the sewer network by customers, resulting in the blockage and ultimately the overflow. When fats and oils are poured down the sink it is usually as a liquid, but as it cools it can become more solid and causes them to build-up, resulting in bad odours and blockages in the sewerage system. This can lead to the sewage overflows into the environment, households and businesses. Public education about what can be disposed in sewer/is flushable:</p> <p><a href="https://www.powerwater.com.au/about/what-we-do/wastewater/sewer-blockages-and-overflows/think-before-you-put-it-down-the-sink">https://www.powerwater.com.au/about/what-we-do/wastewater/sewer-blockages-and-overflows/think-before-you-put-it-down-the-sink</a></p> <p>In the aim of prevention, this material is available on the PWC website and is used as an educational tool for customers. The sewer rising main in this instance became blocked from a combination of rags and fats that have built up over time.</p> <p><i>iv. The reason why the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>As per (c) iii.</p>
<p><b>(d) how the pollution has occurred, is occurring or may occur</b></p>	<p>As per (c) iii &amp; (c) iv.</p>
<p><b>(e) the attempts made to prevent, reduce, control, rectify or clean up the pollution or resultant</b></p>	<p><i>i. Confirmation signage and fencing has been erected, as appropriate.</i></p> <p>Warning signage was not erected in this instance, as the entire affected area was cleaned and disinfected prior to the field crew leaving the site.</p>

<p><b>environmental harm caused or threatening to be caused by the incident</b></p>	<p><i>ii. Decontamination of the site as appropriate.</i></p> <p>Clean up was consistent with our Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction as appropriate to the location, to minimise risk to public health and the environment.</p> <p>Area was inspected for gross pollutants of which none were observed. The entire area was also washed down with clean water and disinfecting biodegradable detergent. A sucker truck was used to remove the blockage as well as remove water from clean up areas.</p>
<p><b>(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA</b></p>	<p>PWC Environmental Team on behalf of Water Services.</p>



Appendix B – Photographs



