

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Friday 30 th 2023, 15:00hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation (PWC)
Incident:	Discharge of sewage from sewerage network – Inspection opening

<p>(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution</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>There was no wastewater quality data available for Daguragu waste stabilisation ponds inflows. The nearest community with a waste discharge licence that has some data on pond inflow wastewater quality is Kalkarindji, which is 200 kilometres away. See below for indicative wastewater quality data.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="598 1191 1471 1301"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sample Date</th> <th>Description</th> <th>E. coli (MPN/100 mL)</th> <th>Enterococci (MPN/100 mL)</th> <th>Ammonia Nitrogen (NH₃-N) (mg/L)</th> <th>Nitrate as N (NO₃-N) (mg/L)</th> <th>Nitrate + Nitrite as N (NO_x-N) (mg/L)</th> <th>Nitrite as N (NO₂-N) (mg/L)</th> <th>Organic Nitrogen as N (mg/L)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>17/01/23</td> <td>KALKARINDJI POND 1 INLET</td> <td>27,900.0</td> <td>1,000.0</td> <td>13.0</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.4</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="598 1310 1471 1453"> <thead> <tr> <th>Phosphorus - Filterable Reactive as P (mg/L)</th> <th>Phosphorus Total (mg/L)</th> <th>Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L)</th> <th>Dissolved Oxygen (lab) (%sat)</th> <th>Dissolved Oxygen (lab) (mg/L)</th> <th>Total Dissolved Solids (from EC) (mg/L)</th> <th>Electrical Conductivity (Lab) (uS/cm)</th> <th>Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)</th> <th>Volatile Suspended Solids (mg/L)</th> <th>Turbidity (lab) (NTU)</th> <th>pH (lab) (pH units)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0.9</td> <td>2.9</td> <td>8.5</td> <td>10.0</td> <td>0.3</td> <td>550.0</td> <td>870.0</td> <td>50.0</td> <td>40.0</td> <td>49.0</td> <td>7.92</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sample Date	Description	E. coli (MPN/100 mL)	Enterococci (MPN/100 mL)	Ammonia Nitrogen (NH ₃ -N) (mg/L)	Nitrate as N (NO ₃ -N) (mg/L)	Nitrate + Nitrite as N (NO _x -N) (mg/L)	Nitrite as N (NO ₂ -N) (mg/L)	Organic Nitrogen as N (mg/L)	17/01/23	KALKARINDJI POND 1 INLET	27,900.0	1,000.0	13.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	Phosphorus - Filterable Reactive as P (mg/L)	Phosphorus Total (mg/L)	Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L)	Dissolved Oxygen (lab) (%sat)	Dissolved Oxygen (lab) (mg/L)	Total Dissolved Solids (from EC) (mg/L)	Electrical Conductivity (Lab) (uS/cm)	Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)	Volatile Suspended Solids (mg/L)	Turbidity (lab) (NTU)	pH (lab) (pH units)	0.9	2.9	8.5	10.0	0.3	550.0	870.0	50.0	40.0	49.0	7.92
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<p>(b) the place where the incident occurred</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 this location. An estimate from the plumber was 5 to 10 kilolitres.</p> <p><i>i. Description of the PWC asset from which the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>The overflow emanated from a sewerage inspection opening, located on a vacant block, lot 163, Daguragu.</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>Discharge Point: 130.8062539E, 17.3998728S (inspection opening) Final discharge point: 130.8062181E, 17.4002243S (adjacent property)</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 until it was fenced off to prevent access and contact with the spill. This occurred as soon as possible and the fence was erected by approximately 15:30hrs 29/06/2023.</p>
(c) the date and time of the incident	<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 was first observed by the Utility Service Contract Worker (USCW), formerly known as ESO at approximately 14:00hrs 29/06/2023. The spill could not be stopped by the USC worker, and a plumber was sent to the community on the 30/06/2023, to rectify the issue. The issue was rectified that afternoon shortly before 16:30hrs 30/06/2023.</p> <p><i>ii. How PWC were notified, or became aware of the discharge.</i></p> <p>The spill was initially reported to the Power and Water Technical Co-ordinator responsible for the community by the Utility Service Contract worker.</p> <p><i>iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>The blockage or partial blockage of the sewer main led to the overflow. The cause of the blockage was determined to be foreign objects disposed of into the sewerage system, including rags, forks and other debris.</p> <p><i>iv. The reason why the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>As per (c) iii.</p>
(d) how the pollution has occurred, is occurring or may occur	<p>As per (c) iii & (c) iv.</p>
(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><i>i. Confirmation signage and fencing has been erected, as appropriate.</i></p> <p>The USC worker fenced off the immediate area affected by the spill in less than two hours, as there were fencing panels available from nearby construction works. Temporary hand written warning signage was also fixed to the fence and when the plumbing contractor arrived, purpose specific signage that include pictograms were affixed to the fence panels at key locations advising community members to keep away, see appendix B, figure 2.</p> <p><i>ii. Decontamination of the site as appropriate.</i></p> <p>Clean up consistent with Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction as appropriate to the location, and to minimise risk to the environment. The area was inspected for any gross pollutants and it was confirmed that the inspection opening lid prevented these from being part of the spill. The affected area was treated by the USC worker with sodium hypochlorite once the spill has ceased.</p>
(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	<p>Power and Water's Environmental Team on behalf of Water Services</p>

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Appendix A – Location map.

ArcFM Web - Powered by Geocortex Essentials



Lot 163 Daguragu Sewage Spill Discharge Point and Final Discharge Point

30/06/2023

Appendix B – Location Photographs



Figure 1 – Showing spill source, path and that there are no gross pollutants present.



Figure 2 – Showing secure pedestrian fencing erected around the spill, now with appropriate warning signage.