

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Monday 21 August 2023, 12:00hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation
Incident:	Discharge of raw sewage from sewer network – manhole in Kalkarindji community

<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</p> <p><i>ii. Indicative wastewater quality for the discharge.</i></p> <p>Raw sewage. Discharge from manhole in Kalkarindji community.</p> <p>See table of recent sampling at the Kalkarindji ponds for indicative wastewater quality of raw sewerage.</p> <p><i>Table 1: Wastewater Sampling: Kalkarindji Ponds</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="572 1115 1406 1301"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4">Bacteriological</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Sample Date</th> <th>Location</th> <th>E. coli (MPN/100 mL)</th> <th>Enterococci (MPN/100 mL)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>19/04/2023</td> <td>Pond 1 Inlet</td> <td>7330</td> <td>200</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>iii. Volume of the waste that was discharged.</i></p> <p>The volume of waste discharged is unknown as manholes are not telemetered. It is estimated to be approximately 5000 litres.</p> <p>Contractors have been engaged by Power and Water staff to resolve the situation.</p>	Bacteriological				Sample Date	Location	E. coli (MPN/100 mL)	Enterococci (MPN/100 mL)	19/04/2023	Pond 1 Inlet	7330	200
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<p>(b) the place where the incident occurred</p>	<p><i>i. Description of the PWC asset from which the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>A damaged manhole has subsequently caused the sewage to backup and discharge from a manhole. Its believed the manhole has been hit by machinery, moving the lid and allowing dirt and other debris to block the manhole causing it to fill and overflow. The damage is believed to have occurred by external contractors in the area – however what/who caused the damage to the manhole is not specifically known.</p> <p>Power and Water contractors are currently onsite resolving the issue.</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 1: 130.8314772E, 17.4484995S</p> <p>The discharge starts at point 1 and has pooled in the general area.</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>Area of discharge is within the community of Kalkarindji so public access is possible. The area will have signed fencing installed to inhibit public access. Contractors are currently onsite resolving the issue.</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 exact timing of the discharge is unknown, however it was discovered at approximately 12.30pm on Sunday (20/08/23). Power and Water contractors are currently onsite resolving the issue.</p> <p><i>ii. How PWC were notified, or became aware of the discharge.</i></p> <p>On Sunday afternoon (20/08/2023) around 12.30pm the local Utilities Support Contractor (USC) in Kalkarindji notified Power and Water staff in Katherine. Immediately Katherine staff arranged for contractors, including a vacuum truck to travel to Kalkarindji.</p> <p><i>iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>A broken manhole behind lot 26 (Kalkarindji community) was discovered, the manhole lid was shifted with debris falling into the manhole. This has caused a blockage and sewerage has since backed up. Hence the discharge.</p> <p>What/who caused the damage to the manhole is not specifically known.</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	As per (c) iii & (c) iv.
(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. Signage and fencing has been erected, as appropriate.</i></p> <p>Signed fencing will be erected surrounding the entire affected area. Power and Water contractors are currently onsite resolving the issue.</p> <p><i>ii. Decontamination of the site as appropriate.</i></p> <p>Clean up will be consistent with Power and Water's Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction as appropriate to the location. Site will be inspected for any gross pollutants. Blockage will be cleared, affected areas will have ponded water, contaminated soils sucked up via a sucker truck. Manhole will be repaired, and ensure affected areas are cleaned and disinfected.</p>
(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	Power and Water Environment Team on behalf of Water Services.

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Appendix A – Location map



Photo 1 – Damaged manhole lid



Photo 2 – General overflow area

