

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Wednesday 8 January 2025 14:57hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation
Incident:	Discharge of diluted effluent from Ludmilla Sewage Pumping Station (SPS), due to wet weather events.

(a) the incident causing	or
threatening to cause	
pollution	

i. Description of the waste that was discharged.

Diluted sewage effluent, diluted by stormwater.

ii. Indicative wastewater quality for the discharge.

Indicative wastewater quality for these overflows may be interpreted from Table 1. Rainfall during the previous day prior to the overflow was 71mm. Inflow to the Ludmilla wastewater treatment plant 07/01/2025 was 26.150ML/day, which equates to over two times the average dry weather inflows.

Table 1: Inflows to Ludmilla WWTP

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	Median	Median	Median	Dilution
	Inflow (ML)	E. coli	Enterococci	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	
>4xADWF	51.048	5,634,500	238,100	Highly diluted
>5xADWF	99.841	2,359,000	218,700	

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.

iii. Volume of the waste that was discharged.

The volume of wastewater discharged at this location is unknown. No telemetric monitoring occurs at this emergency overflow point.

(b) the place where the incident occurred

ii. Description of the Power & Water asset from which the discharge occurred.

Ludmilla sewage pumping station (SP042)

ii. GPS coordinates of the discharge point from the PWC asset, and the final coordinates of the final discharge point.

- 1. Discharge point: 12.4144833 S, 130.8503163 E
- 2. Final point: 12.4144254 S, 130.8458232 E

	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.
	Public access is possible to the discharge location, although due to wet weather conditions present, and the discharge location occurring within mangroves, the likelihood of people visiting this area is low.
	Clean up consistent with Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction as appropriate to the location, and to minimise risk to the environment.
(c) the date and time of the	i. The time and date of commencement and cessation of the discharge.
incident	Started: 15:01hrs 07/01/2025 Stopped: The overflow did temporarily stop between 11:30 and 15:00hrs 08/01/2025, and is still overflowing intermittently depending on rainfall in the area.
	ii. How Power & Water were notified, or became aware of the discharge.
	The overflow was first noticed by one of the operators carrying out his daily checks around 09:00hrs 08/01/2025.
	iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.
	Due to high rainfall events occurring in the Darwin catchment, significant quantities of inflow and infiltration of stormwaters has diluted and significantly increased volumes of sewage effluent in the sewerage system. As a result of this, diluted sewage effluent overflow has occurred from the sewerage infrastructure.
	iv. The reason why the discharge occurred.
	As per (c) iii. Sewerage network infrastructure has been designed to overflow with the best public health and environmental outcomes possible. Design focuses on not overflowing directly inside houses; rather discharge is designed to occur in a controlled manner at locations which can be accessed for infrastructure repair and clean up and with minimal public health or environmental impacts.
(d) how the pollution has occurred, is occurring or may occur	As per (c) iii & (c) iv.
(e) the attempts made to	i. Confirmation signage and fencing has been erected, as appropriate.
prevent, reduce, control, rectify or clean up the pollution or resultant environmental harm caused or threatening to be caused	Where appropriate, signage is displayed to alert the public and fencing has been erected to prevent access to the sites where appropriate, as per the Power & Water Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction.
by the incident	ii. Decontamination of the site as appropriate.
	Clean up consistent with Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction as appropriate to the location, and to minimise risk to the environment. Discharge sites inspected for any gross pollutants and removed as required.

(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	Power and Water Environmental Services team on behalf of Water Services
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Appendix A – Location Map



Appendix B – Location Photographs



Ludmilla SPS Emergency Discharge Point, Historical Photo dated 21 January 2021