Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Initial: Friday 20 February 2026, 11:55 Final: Monday 09 March 2026, 14:15
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation (**PWC**)
Incident:	Overflow of treated effluent at Alpurrurulam (Lake Nash) waste stabilisation ponds due to wet weather.

(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution	*i. Description of the waste that was discharged.* Treated effluent (no gross pollutants). *ii. Indicative wastewater quality for the discharge.* We do not have any analysis results from the site for treated wastewater quality. Please note the discharge is from the emergency overflow channel located in the final pond (pond 3). Treated effluent from pond 3 has normally undergone a complete treatment cycle before transferring to the irrigation area. Recent, and ongoing, wet weather events across central Australia has meant the addition of rainfall caused the ponds to exceed holding capacity. *iii. Volume of the waste that was discharged.* No telemetric monitoring occurs at the site of discharge. Estimated volume is approximately 450kL.
(b) the place where the incident occurred	*i. Description of the PWC asset from which the discharge occurred.* Lake Nash Wastewater Stabilisation Ponds (Figure 1). *ii. GPS coordinates of the discharge point from the PWC asset, and the final coordinates of the final discharge point.* Emergency overflow channel location: -137.8341089E, 20.9787476S Approximate final location of discharge: -137.8336948E, 20.9775765S *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 available throughout the area due to nearby bushland surrounding the waste stabilisation ponds, however public access is not believed to occur regularly.
(c) the date and time of the incident	*i. The time and date of commencement and cessation of the discharge.*

	The overflow was first observed at 08:00 on 19 February 2026. Power and Water became aware of the overflow at around 15:00 on 19 February 2026. Estimated that overflow ceased on around 28 or 29 February 2026 [communication from Utility Support Contract Worker (USCW)]. Please note. Future overflows of treated effluent from Lake Nash waste stabilisation ponds may be likely pending forecasted wet weather. *ii. How PWC were notified, or became aware of the discharge.* The relief USCW onsite alerted Power and Water staff (based in Alice Springs) who subsequently informed Environmental Services (located in Darwin). *iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.* Wet weather events in the lead up to the overflow have caused ponds to exceed capacity with the addition of rainfall. Increasing pond levels, from the addition of rainfall, exceeded pumping capacity to the irrigation area. As per engineering design, treated effluent started to leave the waste stabilisation ponds via the emergency overflow channel (Figure 2 & 3) as a safety measure to reduce drastic environmental damage - if the waste stabilisation ponds were to be fully compromised. *iv. The reason why the discharge occurred.* As per (c) iii.
(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	*i. Confirmation signage and fencing has been erected, as appropriate.* Temporary barricades have been placed at the discharge area to deter any potential access by the public (Figure 4). *ii. Decontamination of the site as appropriate.* Clean up will be consistent with Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction as appropriate to the location, and to minimise risk to the Environment.
(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	Environmental Services on behalf of Water Services

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Figure 1 – Location map

Figure 2 – Emergency overflow channel

Figure 3 – Discharge path

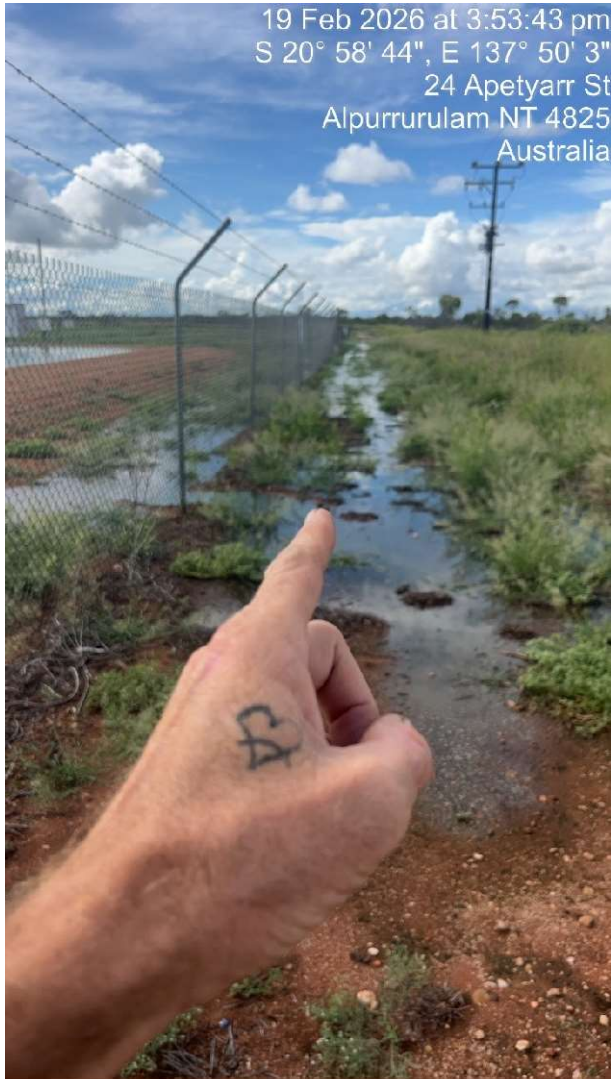

Figure 4 – Temporary barricade at discharge area