

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Wednesday 16 th August 2023, 12:00hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation
Incident:	Discharge of sewage from sewerage network

<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>See the table below for the latest pond 1 inlet wastewater quality results, most indicative of the quality of the overflow.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Sample Date</th> <th rowspan="2">Description</th> <th colspan="2">Bacteriological</th> <th colspan="5">Physical and General Chemical</th> </tr> <tr> <th>E. coli (MPN/100 mL)</th> <th>Enterococci (MPN/100 mL)</th> <th>Ammonia as N (Organic) (mg/L)</th> <th>Biochemical Oxygen</th> <th>Nitrate + Nitrite as N (mg/L)</th> <th>pH (lab)</th> <th>Phosphorus Total (mg/L)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>20/06/23</td> <td>HERMANNSBURG POND 1 INLET</td> <td>275,500.0</td> <td>11,980.0</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>28/4/05/2023</td> <td>HERMANNSBURG POND 1 INLET</td> <td>613,100.0</td> <td>54,750.0</td> <td>4.9</td> <td>5.0</td> <td><0.1</td> <td>8.03</td> <td>1.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>48/6/04/2023</td> <td>HERMANNSBURG POND 1 INLET</td> <td>1,017,000.0</td> <td>68,670.0</td> <td>14.0</td> <td>38.0</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>7.99</td> <td>1.3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>iii. Volume of the waste that was discharged.</i></p> <p>The volume of wastewater discharged is unknown. No telemetric monitoring occurs at the site of discharge. The overflow volume was less than 10KL.</p>	Sample Date	Description	Bacteriological		Physical and General Chemical					E. coli (MPN/100 mL)	Enterococci (MPN/100 mL)	Ammonia as N (Organic) (mg/L)	Biochemical Oxygen	Nitrate + Nitrite as N (mg/L)	pH (lab)	Phosphorus Total (mg/L)	20/06/23	HERMANNSBURG POND 1 INLET	275,500.0	11,980.0						28/4/05/2023	HERMANNSBURG POND 1 INLET	613,100.0	54,750.0	4.9	5.0	<0.1	8.03	1.8	48/6/04/2023	HERMANNSBURG POND 1 INLET	1,017,000.0	68,670.0	14.0	38.0	0.1	7.99	1.3
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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>The discharge occurred from an overflow relief gully (ORG), which is not a Power and Water asset. The cause was from a blocked sewer main which is the Power and Water owned asset.</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: 132.7788525E, 23.9716090S (approx. location of ORG) Final Discharge Point: 132.7790255E, 23.9417580S (half way down driveway)</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 by the public was not possible, the overflow was contained within the residential property boundary, which is surrounded by a 1.8m high</p>																																											

	chain mesh fence and locked gate. Both residents living at the property are aware of the overflow.
(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 overflow is unknown. The overflow was observed shortly before 18:30hrs 14/08/2023 by the utilities service contract worker (USCW). A plumbing contractor attended the site the following morning and cleared the sewer main blockage by approximately 11:30hrs 15/08/2023, at which point the overflow had ceased.</p> <p><i>ii. How PWC were notified, or became aware of the discharge.</i></p> <p>An occupant of one of the three units notified the USCW, who then sometime later notified the Power and Water Technical Coordinator. The Power and Water Environmental Services team was notified in the early afternoon of 15/08/2023 with limited information.</p> <p><i>iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>It is believed that shirts or rags were the foreign material that caused a blockage of the sewer main approximately 100 meters downstream of the units, which then caused sewage to build up within the sewer line and eventually overflow from the units ORG.</p> <p><i>iv. The reason why the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>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.</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. Confirmation signage and fencing has been erected, as appropriate.</i></p> <p>Additional fencing was not required in this instance as the property is already surrounded by a 1.8 meter high chain mesh fence. A warning sign with pictograms will be erected today to warn other member of the community.</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. Blockage was cleared and upon resolution of the blockage, the site was left in a clean state, free from any gross pollutants and the surrounding surface was cleaned and disinfected.</p>
(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	Power and Water Environmental Team on behalf of Water Services

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Appendix A – Location Map with co-ordinates of discharge point.



Appendix B – Photographs of the spill location.



Figures 1 & 2 – Site of the overflow. Source: Hermannsburg USCW.