

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Friday 12 th March 2021, 13:28hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation (PWC)
Incident:	Discharge of raw 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</p> <p><i>ii. Indicative wastewater quality for the discharge.</i></p> <p>There is currently no wastewater quality data available for raw sewage from the Imanpa community; Rainfall leading up to the overflow was 0.0mm for the previous 2 days (BOM Weather Stn: 015511 – Curtain Springs), therefore raw sewage had spilt as a result of the broken sewer rising main.</p> <p><i>iii. Volume of the waste that was discharged.</i></p> <p>The volume of waste discharged is approximately 20 kilolitres, based on SCADA records. The area affected by the spill covered an area of approximately 60 square meters, which reduced very rapidly due to evaporation. It should be noted that the spill was not continuous and only occurred during operation of the pump station. The time of day the incident occurred was also a factor in the reduced volume spilt.</p>
<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 sheared off air valve associated with a 150mm diameter PVC sewer rising main, that runs between sewage pumping station #1 and the Imanpa waste stabilisation ponds.</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>Approximate Discharge Point: 25.1318807 S, 132.5676419 E Approximate final discharge point: 25.1323000 S, 132.5676900 E</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>The discharge occurred adjacent to the community's rubbish tip access road, which the public has access to, however it is not expected that</p>

	people will come in contact with the spill, as the area does not see any pedestrian traffic, only motor vehicles.
(c) the date and time of the incident	<p><i>i. The time and date of commencement and cessation of the discharge.</i> The commencement time of the spill is approximately 02:30hrs. The Essential Services Operator (ESO), whilst undertaking his morning inspections first observed the spill at 08:00hrs on the 12th March 2021. The spill was stopped by temporarily turning off and isolating the sewage pumping station to allow for repairs to the broken infrastructure to take place. The overflow ceased at 11:18am on 12/03/2021.</p> <p><i>ii. How PWC were notified, or became aware of the discharge.</i> The Essential Services Operator (ESO) noticed the spill whilst undertaking his morning inspections, on the 12th March 2021 and then notified the PWC Coordinator.</p> <p><i>iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.</i> A vehicle struck and sheared off an air valve attached to the sewer rising main, between the sewage pumping station and the Imanpa sewage stabilisation ponds. This air valve is protected by two steel bollards set in place by concrete, these were also destroyed.</p> <p><i>iv. The reason why the discharge occurred.</i> As per (c) iii. Damage to PWC infrastructure caused by a vehicle, driven by a member of the public.</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> Warning tape was erected around the damaged asset to identify the risk to members of the public. No other, more suitable signage was available at the time.</p> <p><i>ii. Decontamination of the site as appropriate.</i> Clean up undertaken to minimise risk to public health and the environment. The ESO was instructed to collect any gross pollutants, but reported that no gross pollutants were visible in the overflow. The spill had dispersed and evaporated, removing any risk of public contact, before signage could be erected.</p>
(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	PWC Environmental Team on behalf of Water Services

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Appendix A – Site location map



Appendix B – Photographs of the discharge location – On initial discovery of the overflow



Appendix B – Photographs of the discharge location, post temporary repairs and clean up.

