

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Friday 6 th May 2022, 15:48hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation (PWC)
Incident:	Discharge of sewage from sewerage network (Hermannsburg wastewater stabilisation ponds)

(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution	<p><i>i. Description of the waste that was discharged.</i></p> <p>Untreated sewage.</p> <p><i>ii. Indicative wastewater quality for the discharge.</i></p> <p>Indicative wastewater quality can be found in Table 1. This is wastewater quality results from the Hermannsburg waste stabilisation pond #3 outlet.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Table 1</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="3">Sample Date</th> <th colspan="2">Bacteriological</th> </tr> <tr> <th>E. coli</th> <th>Enterococci</th> </tr> <tr> <th>E. Coli (MPN/100mL)</th> <th>Enterococci (MPN/100mL)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>13/04/2022</td> <td style="text-align: center;">186</td> <td style="text-align: center;">46,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8/02/2022</td> <td style="text-align: center;">960</td> <td style="text-align: center;">241,960</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11/01/2022</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6,867</td> <td style="text-align: center;">23,820</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Location: SHE090 (WQ-HERMANNSBURG POND 3 OUTLET)</p> <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.</p>	Sample Date	Bacteriological		E. coli	Enterococci	E. Coli (MPN/100mL)	Enterococci (MPN/100mL)	13/04/2022	186	46,500	8/02/2022	960	241,960	11/01/2022	6,867	23,820
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(b) the place where the incident occurred	<p><i>i. Description of the PWC asset from which the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>Hermannsburg wastewater stabilisation ponds, pond number 3, emergency discharge point.</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: 132.7709006E, 23.9387002S (pond 3 overflow point) Final Discharge Point: 132.7709723E, 23.9393036S</p> <p>Discharge occurred from the emergency overflow point on pond number three, to a nearby makeshift dam within which the overflow has been</p>																

	<p>captured. This area will be fenced off to prevent access by the public or livestock until the site has been cleaned up.</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 is possible to the spill location however is not believed to be frequently accessed. The affected area is in the process of being fenced off and signage will also be erected.</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 overflow is unknown, but it had ceased by the 5th of May, when the PWC Water and Sewer Technical Co-ordinator was on site. Should more information on the start time and date become available, an amended report will be provided.</p> <p><i>ii. How PWC were notified, or became aware of the discharge.</i></p> <p>The Power and Water Technical Co-ordinator responsible for the area called in to the Hermannsburg community on his way back to Alice Springs, and discovered that pond 3 had recently overflowed.</p> <p><i>iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>With the change in seasons and subsequent decrease in the maximum daytime temperature and associated reduced evaporation rate, combined with an Essential Services Operator (ESO) failing to adequately monitor pond levels, resulted in the pond levels to rise and eventually the overflow.</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	<p>As per (c) iii & (c) iv.</p>
(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>Fencing and signage will be erected as soon as possible. Fencing supplies need to first arrive from Alice Springs, and will then be installed.</p> <p><i>ii. Decontamination of the site as appropriate.</i></p> <p>Clean up was consistent with Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction as appropriate to the location. Site was inspected for any wastewater gross pollutants, of which none were observed.</p>
(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	<p>PWC Environmental Team on behalf of Water Services</p>

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Appendix A – Location Map

