

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Wednesday 17 th May 2023, 15:30hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation (PWC)
Incident:	Discharge of effluent from the Lajamanu wastewater stabilisation ponds irrigation field

<p>(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution</p>	<p><i>i. Description of the waste that was discharged.</i></p> <p>Discharge of treated effluent.</p> <p><i>ii. Indicative wastewater quality for the discharge.</i></p> <p>Treated effluent.</p> <p>There is no wastewater quality data available for Lajamanu's waste stabilisation ponds. The nearest community with a waste discharge licence and associated wastewater quality is Kalkarindji, which is approximately 100 kilometres away. See below for indicative wastewater quality data.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Table 1: Kalkarindji Wastewater Quality Results</i></p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4" style="background-color: #cccccc;">Bacteriological</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="background-color: #cccccc;">Sample Date</th> <th style="background-color: #cccccc;">Location</th> <th style="background-color: #cccccc;">E. coli (MPN/100 mL)</th> <th style="background-color: #cccccc;">Enterococci (MPN/100 mL)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>19/04/2023</td> <td>Pond 4 Outlet</td> <td>7,330</td> <td>200</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>iii. Volume of the waste that was discharged.</i></p> <p>The volume of waste discharged is unknown as it is via an unmetred location.</p>	Bacteriological				Sample Date	Location	E. coli (MPN/100 mL)	Enterococci (MPN/100 mL)	19/04/2023	Pond 4 Outlet	7,330	200
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19/04/2023	Pond 4 Outlet	7,330	200										
<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>Lajamanu Sewer Ponds - Irrigation Field.</p> <p>Discharge of effluent occurred from the irrigation field boundary and exited the site, pooling directly outside of the fence on an access road. The discharge has since ceased.</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 1: 130.6539385 E, -18.3421770 S</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 to the spill area was possible, as the community's access road is adjacent to the wastewater stabilisation ponds. Access to the actual spill was not possible due to the installation of barricading and signage around the affected area.</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 discharge is unknown, however is believed to have commenced sometime from Friday afternoon (12/05/23) and had ceased by 8am Monday morning (15/05/23). The Utility Contract Service Worker, formerly known as the Essential Services Worker (ESO) responsible for this community advised PWC staff.</p> <p><i>ii. How PWC were notified, or became aware of the discharge.</i></p> <p>The Essential Services Operator looking after the facility detected the discharge during a routine inspection, and notified the PWC Staff.</p> <p><i>iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>A combination of increased pond levels, and increased irrigation to the irrigation field has resulted in the discharge.</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	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>Water Services will be investigating the site to determine suitable actions to manage the wastewater more efficiently. Such as ensuring equipment (i.e. pumps, sprinklers) in use onsite is operating at its optimum, and ensuring the irrigation field is being utilised to its full potential (balanced coverage).</p> <p><i>i. Confirmation signage and fencing has been erected, as appropriate.</i></p> <p>Barricading and signage was erected to reduce the possibility of the public making contact with the spill.</p> <p><i>ii. Decontamination of the site as appropriate.</i></p> <p>Overflow is treated effluent. Site was inspected for any wastewater gross pollutants, of which none were observed. Natural processes (UV disinfection) will provide further disinfection of the discharge.</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 – Location map

