

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Sunday 18/09/2022 08:59hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation (PWC)
Incident:	Overflow of fully treated effluent

<p>(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution</p>	<p><i>i. Description of the waste that was discharged.</i></p> <p>Overflow of fully treated effluent.</p> <p><i>ii. Indicative wastewater quality for the discharge.</i></p> <p>The overflow was fully treated effluent. Samples of the spilt effluent were taken 17/09/2022 and results can be provided once received from the laboratory. Indicative results from previous sampling at the ponds is provided below in table 1.</p> <p><i>Table 1. Wastewater monitoring results</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="624 1249 1267 1503"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Sample Date</th> <th rowspan="2">Description</th> <th colspan="1">Bacteriological</th> </tr> <tr> <th>E. coli</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>E. Coli (MPN/100mL)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>12/9/2022</td> <td>POND 5 SANDERSON</td> <td>1,081.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29/8/2022</td> <td>POND 5 SANDERSON</td> <td>985.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15/8/2022</td> <td>POND 5 SANDERSON</td> <td>160.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2/8/2022</td> <td>POND 5 SANDERSON</td> <td>1,246.0</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 via an unmetred overflow point. It is estimated to be less than 950.4KL, as not all effluent would have escaped via the air bleed valve.</p>	Sample Date	Description	Bacteriological	E. coli			E. Coli (MPN/100mL)	12/9/2022	POND 5 SANDERSON	1,081.0	29/8/2022	POND 5 SANDERSON	985.0	15/8/2022	POND 5 SANDERSON	160.0	2/8/2022	POND 5 SANDERSON	1,246.0
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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>An effluent main air valve and more specifically, a section of galvanized pipe below a ball valve leading to an air valve attached to the Sanderson rising main, Leanyer.</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: 130.9087728 E, -12.3716885 S (air valve) Final discharge point: 130.9089022 E, -12.3703678 S (surrounds)</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 to the public is technically possible but unlikely as the track on which the spill occurred is a dead end track. A fence and signage has since been erected at the public access end of the track.</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>Start date is the 16th September 2022, around 10:00hrs. PWC staff first observed the discharge at 09:00hrs on the 17th September 2022 and was stopped by 10:00hrs on the 17th September 2022.</p> <p><i>ii. How PWC were notified, or became aware of the discharge.</i></p> <p>A member of the public that was in the area notified PWC at approximately 08:00hrs on the 17th September 2022.</p> <p><i>iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>A mechanical failure of an air bleed valve on the pipeline, caused by a galvanized piece of pipe associated with the air bleed valve to corrode to the point of failure.</p> <p><i>iv. The reason why the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>The pipeline being a buried pipeline and vegetation having obscured the view of all of the air bleed and scour valves, preventing proper inspections of these items.</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>Both signage and fencing has been erected, with a temporary construction site fence having been placed across the only public access track prior to the spill area. Warning signage has been erected at both ends of the track near the area of the spill.</p> <p><i>ii. Decontamination of the site as appropriate.</i></p> <p>Overflow is fully treated effluent that has passed through five treatment ponds, with no gross pollutants being present. Clean up consistent with Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction as appropriate to the location. Vacuum trucks removed what pooling effluent was able to be safely removed, contaminated soil were replaced with clean soil and all other affected areas had lime applied.</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



Appendix B – Photographs of the old highly corroded air valve and the newly fitted air valve.



Appendix C – Photograph of the fencing blocking public access and the warning signage erected



Appendix D – Photograph of vaccum truck removing pooling effluent and area after having lime applied

