Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Wednesday 27th December 2019, 12:00hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation (**PWC**)
Incident:	Discharge of diluted sewage from sewerage network (no gross pollutants)

(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution	*i. Description of the waste that was discharged.* Highly diluted raw sewage, diluted with brine from water treatment plant (no gross pollutants) *ii. Indicative wastewater quality for the discharge.* Highly diluted raw sewage, diluted with brine from water treatment plant (no gross pollutants). Essential Services Officer (ESO) describes appearance of overflow water as "completely clear". *iii. Volume of the waste that was discharged.* Approximately 40KL/day, based on estimated waste flow rate from water treatment plant.
(b) the place where the incident occurred	*i. Description of the PWC asset from which the discharge occurred.* Overflow relief gully (ORG) from Lot 42, Kintor (remote community, west of Alice Springs) and nearby man hole cover from sewage network. *ii. GPS coordinates of the discharge point from the PWC asset, and the final coordinates of the final discharge point.* Discharge Point (ORG): 129.3909321, -23.2792615 Discharge Point (man hole cover): 129.3908063, -23.2790266 *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.* Access is possible to the spill sites and the ESO has been directed to disinfect the areas with sodium hypochlorite, reducing the health risk to residents.
(c) the date and time of the incident	*i. The time and date of commencement and cessation of the discharge.* The commencement time of the overflow is unknown. The overflow was observed at approximately 10:00hrs by Essential Services Officer (ESO) on 26/12/2019. Spill is ongoing while PWC contractor is on route to attend to spill.

	ii. How PWC were notified, or became aware of the discharge. This overflow was reported by one of the residents to the ESO, who then relayed the information to the Alice Springs PWC Coordinator. A PWC contractor is on route to resolve the situation and make it safe. *iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.* A blockage in the sewer network, cause of which is currently unknown. *iv. The reason why the discharge occurred.* 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/businesses; 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.
(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	*i. Confirmation signage and fencing has been erected, as appropriate.* Fencing and signage is currently not available in the remote community however residents have been spoken to by the ESO and attempts have been made to disinfect the areas. *ii. Decontamination of the site as appropriate.* PWC contractor is travelling to site 27/12/2019 and will clean up the area consistent with Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction as appropriate to the location, and to minimise risk to public health and the environment.
(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	PWC Environmental Team on behalf of Water Services

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