Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Friday 08/05/2020 13:00hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation (**PWC**)
Incident:	Discharge of raw sewage from sewerage network (no gross pollutants)

(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution	*i. Description of the waste that was discharged.* Raw sewage (no gross pollutants) *ii. Indicative wastewater quality for the discharge.* Inflow data to Palmerston WWTP was 10.918 ML/day, and rainfall leading up to the overflow was 0mm for the preceding 3 days (Darwin Airport – 014015), Therefore indicative wastewater quality for this overflow can be assumed to be average dry weather flows, with little to no dilution to be assumed. Table 1: Inflow to Ludmilla Wastewater Treatment Plant Inflow volume / median inflow kL / median E coli / 90th percentile inflow kL / 90th percentile E coli below ADWF: 11,040 / 11,199,000 / 12,925 / 15,531,000 >ADWF (14.5 ML/day): 15,274 / 9,804,000 / 22,206 / 17,148,300 >2x ADWF (29.0 ML/day): 31,673 / 4,884,000 / 37,166 / 14,385,600 >3x ADWF (43.5 ML/day): 43,629 / 4,611,000 / 50,506 / 12,843,600 >5x ADWF (72.5 ML/day): 71,558 / 5,002,000 / 78,578 / 5,905,200 >WDL limit (89.5 ML/day): 102,445 / 102,445 / 148,575 / 13,704,400 (ADWF= Average Dry Weather Flow ~14.5 ML/day in 2013/14) *iii. Volume of the waste that was discharged.* The volume of waste discharged is unknown. No telemetric monitoring occurs at the site of discharge.
(b) the place where the incident occurred	*i. Description of the PWC asset from which the discharge occurred.* Overflow from connection point at back of Woodroffe Primary School (next to oval), 55 Woodroffe Avenue, Woodroffe. *ii. GPS coordinates of the discharge point from the PWC asset, and the final coordinates of the final discharge point.* Discharge Point: 130.9831682, -12.5070393 (connection point) Final discharge point: 130.9830778, -12.5069941 (open parkland)

	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 to the general public is possible, but limited to primary school pupils and staff. The affected area has been cleaned up, disinfected and barricading and signage erected as per the PWC Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction.
(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 18:30hrs by PWC staff on 07/05/2020 and the spill stopped by 19:00hrs 07/05/2020. *ii. How PWC were notified, or became aware of the discharge.* This overflow was reported by one of the nearby residents to the PWC call centre, who then relayed the information to the on-call PWC operations staff. PWC personnel attended the site at 18:30hrs (07/05/20) and undertook action to resolve the situation and make it safe. *iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.* The cause of the spill was due to a blockage in the main line, as a result of paper towels being incorrectly disposed of into the sewage system. Public education about what can be disposed in sewer/is flushable: https://www.powerwater.com.au/about/what-we-do/wastewater/sewer-blockages-and-overflows/think-before-you-put-it-down-the-sink In the aim of prevention this material is available on the PWC website and is used as an educational tool for customers. Additionally, PWC has recently been running an educational campaign on social media, print media and radio on the 3P's. *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.* Barricading and signage was erected, to alert the pupils and staff, as per Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction. *ii. Decontamination of the site as appropriate.* Clean up consistent with Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction – Unsealed land (beaches, parks, open land and gardens) and public footpaths, Bushland; Remove any gross contamination (including paper, rags, etc.) from impacted area, apply lime until surface ponding is eliminated and then apply 50mm imported topsoil. Installation

	of barrier fencing around any contaminated area and installation of advisory signage.
(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	PWC Environmental Team on behalf of Water Services

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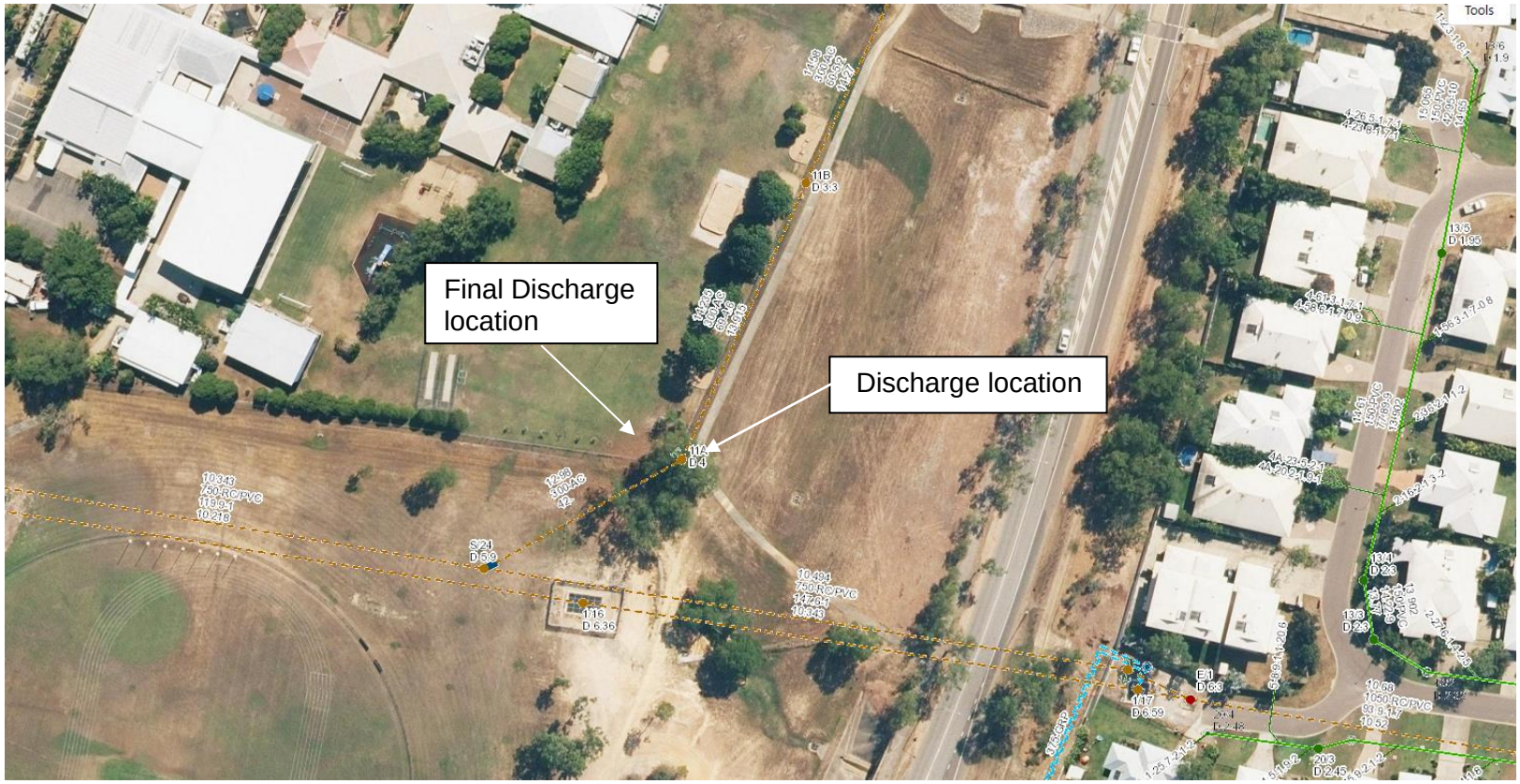
Appendix A – Location map



Appendix B – Photographs of spill location