

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Friday 11 th December 2020, 16:00hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation (PWC)
Incident:	Discharge of raw sewage from sewerage network (sewer manhole cover to roadside stormwater drain)

(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.

Indicative wastewater quality for this overflow can be found in Table 1. Rainfall leading up to the overflow was 0.2mm for the previous 3 days (BOM Weather Stn: 014015 – Darwin Airport), therefore raw sewage is believed to have overflowed from the manhole – this is reflected as Average Dry Weather Flows (>ADWF) in Table 1 below.

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 this location.

This overflow was noticed by a PWC contractor driving past the location, who then notified the relevant sewerage networks department, which shortly after attended the scene. Upon arrival it was noticed that the sewer manhole cover (Ac 1/4/3) was overflowing onto the grassed verge. The start time of the overflow is unknown and there is no metered data available for manholes to determine a volume of the overflow. The affected area was limited to approximately 2 square meters.

(b) the place where the incident occurred	57 Benison Road, Winnellie <i>i. Description of the PWC asset from which the discharge occurred.</i> Sewer manhole cover (1/4/3) located at 57 Benison Road, Winnellie, – as per map below. <i>ii. GPS coordinates of the discharge point from the PWC asset, and the final coordinates of the final discharge point.</i> Discharge Point: 130.8688624, -12.4306549 <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> Access to the public is possible in the small section of grassed road verge between the manhole cover and the road. Spill has been fenced and signage erected. Clean up was undertaken as per Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction.
(c) the date and time of the incident	<i>i. The time and date of commencement and cessation of the discharge.</i> The commencement time of the overflow is unknown. The overflow was first observed by PWC staff at approximately 12:20pm on 11/12/20 and was stopped shortly after site crews attended site at 12:30pm (11/12/20). <i>ii. How PWC were notified, or became aware of the discharge.</i> This overflow was noticed by a PWC contractor driving past the location, who then notified the relevant sewerage networks department. PWC staff attended the site at approx. 12:20am 11/12/20 and resolved the overflow and cleaned the area. <i>iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.</i> The cause of the overflow was due to foreign objects creating a blockage downstream of the sewer manhole. <i>iv. The reason why the discharge occurred.</i> 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; 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	The blockage was cleared, and the overflow was stopped. Clean up undertaken as per Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction. <i>i. Confirmation signage and fencing has been erected, as appropriate.</i>

or threatening to be caused by the incident	The site was fenced and signage erected. <i>ii. Decontamination of the site as appropriate.</i> Clean up consistent with Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction as appropriate to the location, and to minimise risk to the environment. Site inspected for any gross pollutants of which none were observed, vacuum truck was used to remove the wastewater from the manhole and surrounds, the area was limed and then fenced off to prevent access to the public.
(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	PWC Environmental Team on behalf of Water Services

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Photo 1 – Pre-clean up



Photo 2 – Post clean-up

