

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Monday 14 th December 2020, 16:00hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation (PWC)
Incident:	Discharge of raw sewage from sewerage network (broken sewer rising main)

(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution	<i>i. Description of the waste that was discharged.</i> Raw sewage (no gross pollutants) <i>ii. Indicative wastewater quality for the discharge.</i> Indicative wastewater quality for this overflow can be found in Table 1. Table 1 includes wastewater results from the Yulara Wastewater Stabilisation Pond 1 inlet. Rainfall leading up to the overflow was 0.0mm for the previous 3 days (BOM Weather Stn: 015635 – Yulara Airport), therefore raw sewage has spilt as a result of the broken sewer rising main. Table 1. <table border="1" data-bbox="742 1265 1315 1429"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th><th>Parameter & Units</th></tr> <tr> <th></th><th>E Coli / 100ml</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>13 May 2019</td><td>26,030,000</td></tr> <tr> <td>15 Apr 2019</td><td>14,500,000</td></tr> <tr> <td>18 Mar 2019</td><td>26,030,000</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <i>iii. Volume of the waste that was discharged.</i> The volume of waste discharged is unknown. No telemetric monitoring occurs at this location, it is however estimated to be less than 1000 litres.	Date	Parameter & Units		E Coli / 100ml	13 May 2019	26,030,000	15 Apr 2019	14,500,000	18 Mar 2019	26,030,000
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(b) the place where the incident occurred	<i>i. Description of the PWC asset from which the discharge occurred.</i> 150mm PVC sewer rising main, located at Lot 218 Perentie Road, Yulara, – 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: 130.9927221E, -25.2442961S <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 was possible at the site of the spill and repair, however it was promptly fenced, or had danger tape erected around it, with warning signs also prominently displayed. In addition, a PWC employee or the ESO would have been present to keep the public out.
(c) the date and time of the incident	<i>i. The time and date of commencement and cessation of the discharge.</i> The spill occurred intermittently while the Sewer Pump Station #3 was pumping, and ceases after pumping stopped, with some of the overflowed effluent draining back into the main. The commencement time of the spill is unknown. The spill was first observed by a Yulara Resort Technical Services staff member at around 09:00am on 14/12/2020. It was then reported to the ESO and PWC shortly after. The spill was stopped at 10:00pm on the 14/12/2020. The delay in stopping the spill was due to the need to mobilise staff and equipment from Alice Springs. <i>ii. How PWC were notified, or became aware of the discharge.</i> The spill was first noticed by a Yulara resort staff member who notified the ESO, who then advised PWC of the issue. <i>iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.</i> The sewer rising main has deteriorated over time, since installation in 1983, and under the pressure of the sewage pumping station, the pipe gave way. <i>iv. The reason why the discharge occurred.</i> As per (c) iii. The age of the infrastructure has caused the PVC pipework to become brittle, and with the additional pressure of the sewage pumping station #3, has caused the pipework to fail.
(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	Once the ESO was notified, he immediately created earthen bunds to contain the spill. As previously mentioned, the spill only occurred when the sewage pumping station was pumping, and once it stopped again, the majority of the sewage flowed back into the line. The clean-up was undertaken as per Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction. Contaminated soil was taken to a hard stand within the community's wastewater treatment plant, the excavation was then backfilled with clean soil and a chlorine solution was applied to the area to ensure complete disinfection. <i>i. Confirmation signage and fencing has been erected, as appropriate.</i> The site was fenced and warning signage was displayed during the entire time of the repair and clean up. <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. Vacuum truck was used to remove the wastewater and contaminated soil from around the broken pipework, the area was

	backfilled with clean soils and the area had a chlorine solution applied which was raked in.
(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, showing initial response



Photo 2 – Pre-clean up, showing initial response (earthen bund)



Photo 3 – Pre-clean up, showing initial response (warning signage)



Photo 4 – Excavation with finished repair



Photo 5 – Area post repair and clean-up

