

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Tuesday 15 th November 2022, 16:00hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation (PWC)
Incident:	Discharge of sewage from sewerage network – Overflow relief Gully (ORG)

(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> There is no recent inflow wastewater quality data available from Hermannsburg or any of the surrounding communities, as none have a waste discharge licence, due to all effluent typically being evaporated or irrigated and hence no monitoring occurs. <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 around 880 litres, based on the area covered by the spill.				
(b) the place where the incident occurred	<i>i. Description of the PWC asset from which the discharge occurred.</i> The overflow emanated from the property's ORG, which is not a PWC asset, within Lot 39, house number 6 Pareroultja Street, Hermannsburg. <i>ii. GPS coordinates of the discharge point from the PWC asset, and the final coordinates of the final discharge point.</i> <table> <tr> <td>Discharge Point:</td><td>132.7789571E, 23.9412634S</td></tr> <tr> <td>Final discharge point:</td><td>Immediately surrounding discharge point.</td></tr> </table> <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 not possible as the spill occurred within a fenced private property.	Discharge Point:	132.7789571E, 23.9412634S	Final discharge point:	Immediately surrounding discharge point.
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(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 spill is unknown, but was first observed by the ESO at 18:48hrs 13/11/2022. The spill was stopped once the cause was resolved which was shortly before 15:00hrs 14/11/2022. <i>ii. How PWC were notified, or became aware of the discharge.</i> The spill was initially reported to the PWC call centre by one of the residents of the property. A PWC sewer reticulation field crew then attended the site, cleared the partial blockage and the entire area affected by the spill was cleaned up and disinfected by the community's Essential Services Operator. <i>iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.</i> A partial blockage of the sewer main (571.069 150-PVC 77.3 75-571.74) was a result of foreign material being discarded into the sewerage system impeding the flow, resulting in raw sewage backing up in the sewer main and ultimately overflowing from the residential ORG. <i>iv. The reason why the discharge occurred.</i> As per (c) iii. Foreign objects being incorrectly disposed of into the sewer system, impeding normal flows resulted in a partial blockage of the sewer main.
(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>i. Confirmation signage and fencing has been erected, as appropriate.</i> Fencing and warning signage was not required in this instance, as the spill was completely contained within the fully fenced private property. <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. Any gross pollutants have been picked up and disposed of appropriately. Contaminated soil was treated with hypochlorite solution, to disinfect the area and make it safe for the residents, straight away.
(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 – Location Photographs



