

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Tuesday 18/02/2025 16:00hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation (PWC)
Incident:	Fully treated sewage effluent spill

<p>(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution</p>	<p><i>i. Description of the waste that was discharged.</i></p> <p>Fully treated sewage effluent.</p> <p><i>ii. Indicative wastewater quality for the discharge.</i></p> <p>There is no wastewater quality data available for the Minyerri community. The nearest community with wastewater quality data available is Ngukurr. The table below shows the Ngukurr monitoring results, which will be the most indicative wastewater quality data available for Minyerri.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="598 1153 1460 1361"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Sample Date</th> <th rowspan="2">Description</th> <th colspan="6">Physical and General Chemical</th> </tr> <tr> <th>BOD (mg/L)</th> <th>(NO3-N) (mg/L)</th> <th>(NO2-N) (mg/L)</th> <th>pH (lab)</th> <th>Phosphorus Total (mg/L)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>17/01/25</td> <td>WQ-NGUKURR POND 5 OUTLET</td> <td>27.0</td> <td>< 0.1</td> <td>< 0.1</td> <td>8.53</td> <td>2.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9/10/24</td> <td>WQ-NGUKURR POND 5 OUTLET</td> <td>1.8</td> <td>< 0.1</td> <td>< 0.1</td> <td>8.7</td> <td>1.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9/07/24</td> <td>WQ-NGUKURR POND 5 OUTLET</td> <td>6.7</td> <td>0.2</td> <td>0.2</td> <td>8.42</td> <td>1.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11/06/24</td> <td>WQ-NGUKURR POND 5 OUTLET</td> <td>3.6</td> <td>0.2</td> <td>0.3</td> <td>8.19</td> <td>0.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3/04/24</td> <td>WQ-NGUKURR POND 5 OUTLET</td> <td>< 1.0</td> <td>< 0.1</td> <td>< 0.1</td> <td>8.39</td> <td>0.8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>iii. Volume of the waste that was discharged.</i></p> <p>Unknown, there is no telemetric monitoring at this location, but it is estimated to be 30KL.</p>	Sample Date	Description	Physical and General Chemical						BOD (mg/L)	(NO3-N) (mg/L)	(NO2-N) (mg/L)	pH (lab)	Phosphorus Total (mg/L)	17/01/25	WQ-NGUKURR POND 5 OUTLET	27.0	< 0.1	< 0.1	8.53	2.2	9/10/24	WQ-NGUKURR POND 5 OUTLET	1.8	< 0.1	< 0.1	8.7	1.9	9/07/24	WQ-NGUKURR POND 5 OUTLET	6.7	0.2	0.2	8.42	1.1	11/06/24	WQ-NGUKURR POND 5 OUTLET	3.6	0.2	0.3	8.19	0.5	3/04/24	WQ-NGUKURR POND 5 OUTLET	< 1.0	< 0.1	< 0.1	8.39	0.8
Sample Date	Description			Physical and General Chemical																																													
		BOD (mg/L)	(NO3-N) (mg/L)	(NO2-N) (mg/L)	pH (lab)	Phosphorus Total (mg/L)																																											
17/01/25	WQ-NGUKURR POND 5 OUTLET	27.0	< 0.1	< 0.1	8.53	2.2																																											
9/10/24	WQ-NGUKURR POND 5 OUTLET	1.8	< 0.1	< 0.1	8.7	1.9																																											
9/07/24	WQ-NGUKURR POND 5 OUTLET	6.7	0.2	0.2	8.42	1.1																																											
11/06/24	WQ-NGUKURR POND 5 OUTLET	3.6	0.2	0.3	8.19	0.5																																											
3/04/24	WQ-NGUKURR POND 5 OUTLET	< 1.0	< 0.1	< 0.1	8.39	0.8																																											
<p>(b) the place where the incident occurred</p>	<p><i>i. Description of the PWC asset from which the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>Minyerri wastewater stabilisation ponds</p> <p><i>ii. GPS coordinates of the discharge point from the PWC asset, and the final coordinates of the final discharge point.</i></p> <p>(1) Discharge Point: 134.0692884, -15.2242136 (2) Final discharge point: 134.0682557, -15.2240387</p> <p><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></p> <p>The effluent discharged to an area of bushland that is unfenced, but it is unlikely that any community members would come into contact with the effluent, as there are no vehicle tracks in that area.</p>																																																

(c) the date and time of the incident	<p><i>i. The time and date of commencement and cessation of the discharge.</i></p> <p>Exact time of commencement is unknown but was first observed at approximately 06:00hrs 18/02/2025. The discharge ceased approximately 12:45hrs, 18/02/2025.</p> <p><i>ii. How PWC were notified or became aware of the discharge.</i></p> <p>The Power and Water Environmental Services team became aware of the event via the daily scheduled calls email from the utility services contract workers. They look after Power & Water assets on Power & Water's behalf in remote communities.</p> <p><i>iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>The pump that ordinarily pumps effluent to the irrigation field faulted and stopped working temporarily. The exact cause is unknown.</p> <p><i>iv. The reason why the discharge occurred.</i></p> <p>Due to the irrigation pump having faulted for a period, the effluent from the ponds was not being irrigated as per design, leading to the pond levels rising to a level above capacity.</p>
(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	<p><i>i. Confirmation signage and fencing has been erected, as appropriate.</i></p> <p>Due to the location of the spill being in an area highly unlikely to be visited, no fencing or signage was erected in this instance.</p> <p><i>ii. Decontamination of the site as appropriate.</i></p> <p>Clean up was consistent with Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction as appropriate to the location. The overflow was fully treated effluent, with no gross pollutants were present.</p>
(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	PWC Environmental Team on behalf of Water Services

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

