Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority

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

Date and Time of Notification:	Saturday 29/03/2025 15:00hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation
Incident:	Overflow of diluted raw sewage effluent from Pine Creek sewage pump station

(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution	*i. Description of the waste that was discharged.* Diluted raw sewage effluent. *ii. Indicative wastewater quality for the discharge.* As the overflow was diluted effluent, and with no flowmeter at the discharge point, it is not possible to extrapolate indicative wastewater quality, based on previous laboratory testing and average flows.
(b) the place where the incident occurred	*i. Description of the Power & Water asset from which the discharge occurred.* Pine Creek sewage pumping station. *ii. GPS coordinates of the discharge point from the Power & Water asset, and the final coordinates of the final discharge point.* Discharge Point: 131.8392783 E, 13.8164929 S (emergency discharge pipe outlet) Final discharge point: 131.8386789 E, 13.8140982 S (Copperfield Creek) *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.* Discharge is to Copperfield Creek, which is ordinarily accessible to the public, however the area is currently inundated with stormwater and hence it is inaccessible.
(c) the date and time of the incident	*i. The time and date of commencement and cessation of the discharge.* Overflow commenced at approximately 18:00hrs 28/03/2025 and ceased to overflow at approximately 05:00hrs 29/03/2025. *ii. How Power & Water were notified or became aware of the discharge.* The Utility Services Contract Worker (USCW) looking after Pine Creek facilities notified the Water and Sewage Network Coordinator. *iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.* A monsoonal event has inundated the sewerage system with stormwater resulting in the overflow at the sewage pumping station.

	This was due to an undersized sewer main which leads from the sewage pump station to the sewage ponds and irrigation field. *iv. The reason why the discharge occurred.* A combination of a high rainfall event and a sewer main, which leads from the pump station to the ponds, trying to operate beyond its capacity.
(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.* Fencing not appropriate in this instance, as the spill is discharging into the nearby Copperfield Creek, with no anticipated access by the public. *ii. Decontamination of the site as appropriate.* Overflow is diluted effluent into the flooded Copperfield Creek, decontamination is not possible in this instance.
(f) the identity of the person notifying the NT EPA	Power & Water Environmental Team on behalf of Water Services

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