Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority

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

Date and Time of Notification:	31st January 2025 16:00hrs
Person / Company:	Power and Water Corporation (**PWC**)
Incident:	Discharge of Highly diluted sewage from sewerage network

(a) the incident causing or threatening to cause pollution	*i. Description of the waste that was discharged.* Highly diluted raw sewage. *ii. Indicative wastewater quality for the discharge.* Indicative wastewater quality for this overflow can be found in Table 1. Although the Darwin Airport weather observations do not show any significant rainfall for the period prior to the event, the inflow data to the Ludmilla wastewater treatment plant shows otherwise, with total outflows for around the same period peaking at 653.53L/s, which when extrapolated equals ~56ML/day or over 4 times average dry weather flows. Likewise, the Palmerston ponds inflows increased rapidly around 23:00hrs 30/01/2025. **Table 1: Inflows to Ludmilla WWTP** See table below. *iii. Volume of the waste that was discharged.* The volume of wastewater discharged is unknown. No telemetric monitoring of discharge volume occurs at the sites of discharge.
(b) the place where the incident occurred	*i. Description of the PWC asset from which the discharge occurred.* Fairway Waters sewage pumping station (SP072) emergency overflow pipe.

	Median Inflow (ML)	Median E. coli	Median Enterococci	Dilution Terminology
below ADWF	11.401	14,136,000	713,550	Undiluted
>ADWF	13.253	11,616,000	727,000	Partially Diluted
>2xADWF	29.629	8,164,000	323,000	Diluted
>3xADWF	44.043	6,488,000	261,300	Highly diluted
>4xADWF	51.048	5,634,500	238,100	
>5xADWF	99.841	2,359,000	218,700	

NOTE:
Based on 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2020 inflows to Ludmilla WWTP and monitoring events data.
Average dry weather inflow being 11.9012 ML/day.

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>ii. GPS coordinates of the discharge point from the PWC asset, and the final coordinates of the final discharge point.
1. Discharge Point: 130.9704057 E, -12.4708822 S
2. Final Discharge Point: 130.9715498 E, -12.4723699 S

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.

Access by the public was not possible, as the event occurred on a private golf course, outside of business hours.</td></tr>
<tr><td>(c) the date and time of the incident</td><td>i. The time and date of commencement and cessation of the discharge.

<table><tr><th>Site</th><th>Start</th><th>Stop</th></tr><tr><td>Fairway Waters SPS</td><td>23:09hrs 30/01/2025</td><td>00:05hrs 31/01/2025</td></tr></table>
ii. How PWC were notified, or became aware of the discharge.

Power & Water staff were alerted of the event by alarms from the online CITECH system.

iii. The process by which the discharge occurred.

Due to the number of properties feeding into the sewage pumping station, and the associated infiltration into the sewerage system, the pumps were not able to keep up and the well overflowed.

iv. The reason why the discharge occurred.

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. In this instance, the overflow was directed to the stormwater network within at the golf course, which feeds into the course’s lakes.</td></tr>
<tr><td>(d) how the pollution has occurred, is occurring or may occur</td><td>As per (c) iii & (c) iv.</td></tr>
<tr><td>(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</td><td>i. Confirmation signage and fencing has been erected, as appropriate.

No fencing or signage was erected in this instance, as effluent was directed away from were golfers walk or drive, and the spill had stopped shortly after midnight.

ii. Decontamination of the site as appropriate.

Clean up consistent with Sewage Spills/Overflow Response Work Instruction as appropriate to the location, and to minimise risk to the environment. With respect to site limitations, cleanup was not a possible or necessary.</td></tr>
</table>

(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*)

Appendix A – Location Map (Fairway Waters Golf Course)