



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WATER BUREAU

Report of Discharges of Untreated or Partially Treated Sewage

This information is required to be submitted under Michigan Act 451, Public Acts of 1994, as amended, Part 31. Potential fines and penalties specified in Part 31 apply to this requirement.

Report Submitted by:	
Name	Richard Pierson
Position	Director
Municipality	Gull Lake Sewer and Water Authority
Address	PO Box 458
City, State, Zip	Richland, MI 49083
County	Kalamazoo
Telephone #	269-731-4680
Fax #	269-731-2596
E-mail address	piersonr@tds.net

Discharge Information (see instructions for completing this section)	
Description of / reason for the discharge(s)	Sewer grinder connection: 1 ¼ inch copper sewer connection to a 12" forcemain failed.
Name of wastewater treatment facility normally receiving sewage	City of Kalamazoo
Location of the discharge(s)	North of Address 6237 N. 37 th Street
Surface waters impacted by the discharge(s)	No named surface waters impacted. Impact restricted to ditchline on west side of 37 th Street.
Land impacted by the discharge(s)	Area restricted to ditchline 125 feet south of copper service pipe failure
Were initial notification procedures followed? (yes/no) If no, explain.	No. Director Pierson (in responsible charge of the reporting) was attending a Public Works Conference in Charlotte, NC. No other personnel were available or authorized to report. See report for engineering and other evaluation in support thereof.
Event start date and time	Not known. Sunday, March 1 st : 12:30 pm -- Discovery by Authority personnel. Friday, February 27 th (per homeowner) the leakage was evident in the ditchline in front of address 6237 N. 37 th Street. Homeowner phone call to County Dispatch failed to be forwarded to the Authority. Homeowner at 6237 address stated he may have noticed it earlier during the week. There is no way to know the exact time the event started.
Event end date and time	Sunday, March 1 st , at 5:30 pm, 4 hours after discovery.
Precipitation type and measurements	No precipitation occurred prior to or during the event timeline.
Volume discharged (specify units, either gallons or million gallons)	Based on assumptions detailed in the attached follow-up report, the rate of leakage could have been as high as 46,421 gallons per day, if the leak continued during static (non-operational) times. It is not known when the leak started. Assuming leakage began on Friday (from homeowner report) and leaked for 2.5 days before being discovered and repaired by personnel, a maximum estimated

	between 40,000 (forty thousand) – 139,000 (one hundred thirty nine thousand) gallons may have been discharged.
Quality of discharge(s)	Wastewater from forcemain
Actions taken to stop and/or minimize the discharge(s)	Excavated and shut off 1 ¼ inch grinder pump service line that was leaking within 4 hours of discovery.
Actions taken to minimize the impact from the discharge(s)	Vacuum truck called to the scene to remove any evident wastewater and wastewater debris that may have accumulated. 13,000 gallons removed from frozen ditchline. Additional clean-up and lime applied later during week when weather permitted.
Actions to prevent reoccurrence of the discharge(s)	<p>Authority believes the copper service line, installed by contractor in 1994, had been improperly "crimped" during installation, causing a weak-point and eventual ½ inch x 1½" triangular fracture in the line.</p> <p>Authority will be excavating several older copper service lines to investigate and determine whether preventive replacement (with plastic) should be implemented on similar grinder pump service line installations.</p> <p>Also, Authority to follow-up with County Dispatch as to why Authority was not notified following homeowner phone call.</p>
Compliance status of the municipality (in compliance/ not in compliance)	In compliance.
Results of <u>E. coli</u> testing (circle one)	Not applicable, no discharge to surface waters where bodily contact would occur.
Discharge report (Check appropriate box, please check only one box)	X (1) The reported discharge was of untreated or partially treated sewage (definition in Section 3112a) which is not characterized by either condition below.
Additional information (attach sheets as necessary)	<p>See 26 page report attached.</p> <p>See attached homeowner notification letter.</p>