
CITY OF IQALUIT DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING MEMO

DATE: MAY 1, 2007
TO: PHYLLIS BEAULIEU, MANAGER OF LICENCING, NWB
CC: ANDREW KEIM, WATER RESOURCES OFFICER, INAC
FROM: GEOFF BAKER, DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING, CITY OF IQALUIT
RE UNCONTROLLED SEWAGE DISCHARGE REPORT – FEBRUARY 21, 2007

The following is a report from the City of Iqaluit on the uncontrolled sewage release which occurred at Lift Station No. 2 on February the 21st 2007. This report summarizes the events that lead up to the release and the corrective measures that have been taken by the City of Iqaluit to prevent a similar failure in the future.

Public Works Operations, in completing their daily routine checks on February 21, 2007, noticed higher than normal levels of sewage in the access vault located adjacent to Lift Station No. 2. The crews were given immediate direction to bring the sewer blaster to the site and “jet” the line. It was then noticed that there was a large grease build-up in the line. Once the blockage was cleared, the sewage levels in the access vault and main line returned to normal.

Public Works Roads Division then immediately mobilized an excavator and tandem truck to the spill site to begin excavating and removing contaminated soil and ice and dispose of it in the City’s back-up sewage lagoon, with permission from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. Approximately 207 cubic meters of contaminated soil and ice were removed from the area.

The City has, since this occurrence, initiated a pilot enzyme injection program into the City’s sewage system. The pilot program will be for a 12 week duration. A further assessment as to its affect on grease build up will be made following the pilot program. In the meantime the City will be issuing public service announcements regarding domestic waste inputs to be broadcast on the local radio stations.

Subject to concurrence from INAC and other applicable regulating authorities the City believes that this concludes our investigation, follow-up and remediation of this uncontrolled sewage release occurrence.

Should you have any questions or require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (867)975-8502.

Best Regards,



Geoff Baker
Director, Engineering Services
City of Iqaluit