

**THE CITY OF NEWPORT
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
615 THIRD STREET
FACILITY LOCATION
121 HIGHWAY 17 SOUTH
NEWPORT, ARKANSAS 72112
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29 May 2020

**Mr. Richard Healey
ADEQ
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 7218**

Re: Follow up report on SSO from 5-29-20

Dear Mr. Healey:

This letter is to bring you up to date on events leading up to the above mentioned SSO and actions taken by the City of Newport to correct this problem.

On May 6, 2020, a sinkhole was reported in the yard at 801 Village Drive. After inspecting this area and finding additional sinking under the driveway at the street, it was determined the 12 inch clay sewer pipes under the driveway and yard were probably broken. A spot repair had been done near this area in 2019 and it was found the water table was above the pipeline at the time so this would be a repair the city crew is not capable of making. The sinkholes and area manholes were monitored on a daily basis until a contractor could make repairs.

Mr. Kevin Span of Capital Infrastructure of Arkansas was contacted and set up to look at the site on May 15, 2020, to see if this problem could be repaired with trenchless technology by installing a cured in place pipe inserted into the old pipelines from manhole to manhole. After the May 15 meeting, a video inspection of 3 sections of damaged pipe was done on May 20 and it was determined Capital Infrastructure could make the repairs. Material delivery was expected from 2 to 3 weeks. At this time, all pipes were still flowing with no sewer back up anywhere. Capital Infrastructure crew was scheduled to begin work June 2, 2020.

On the morning of May 27 this area of Newport received over 3.5 inches of rain in less than one hour. The additional water from this rain caused further damage to the pipes allowing sand under the manhole to flow down the pipeline and causing the manhole to drop about a foot on May 28.

On May 29, 2020, a manhole on the side of a ditch west of Live Oak Drive was found to be overflowing. The SSO was reported to ADEQ via fax and Capital Infrastructure was contacted. It was decided to not try cleaning the damaged pipes because it may cause further problems with inserting the material to repair the lines. Capital Infrastructure sent a contractor to the site on May 29 to inject chemical grout under the sinking manhole to

prevent further deterioration and try to raise the manhole back to grade. It appears the manhole was stabilized but did not raise much.

On June 2, 2020, Capital Infrastructure arrived with equipment and material. After working all day, nothing had been accomplished. It was determined the fallen manhole and broken pipes would have to be dug out and replaced before the cured in place pipe could be inserted. A well point system will be required to remove the groundwater from the area before construction can begin. The construction crew is being coordinated by Capital Infrastructure and is scheduled to begin on June 4 or 5. When the manhole and broken pipes are repaired, Capital Infrastructure will complete the insertion of all 3 sections of pipeline from manhole to manhole. A sketch of the area is attached.

The city crew will begin a temporary bypass pipeline on June 3 to pump the sewer from the flooded manhole around the damaged pipeline to a down stream manhole in order to stop sewer overflowing into the ditch on Live Oak Drive.

A final report will be given when repairs are complete.

Sincerely,

Martin Steward
Superintendent, WWTP

cc: David Stewart, Mayor

