

UTILITY OPERATIONS

BYPASS, SPILL OR LEAK REPORTING

Date: Dec 3 2024 Time of Call: 15:00

Location of Incident: 322 George St. (Paisley WWTP)

What Happened: _____

See attached document

Contact information included in document

When: 15:00 to 19:50

Current Status: Clean up complete at 19:50.

Bypass: Yes No
Spill: Yes No
Leak: Yes No

Approximate amount: 7m³ digested sludge.

Current Action: Reporting to Required officials ongoing.

Possible effects on the receiver, environment or downstream user:

No downstream users, spill contained & cleaned up

Further action required: Report sent to MECF at 19:00 on Dec 4/24

Prepared by: Chris Legg / CC

Representing: Arran-Elderslie Water/Sewer Dept.

December 3rd, 2024 Paisley WWTP sludge spill

What Happened: attach to Leak reporting form

Staff was conducting routine digested sludge movement at the Sludge storage tanks. Moving sludge from tank 3 to tanks 1&2 in order to facilitate some maintenance in tank 3. After changing valving configurations, staff confirmed that sludge was flowing in the intended direction. The plant had snow coverage due to recent winter storms.

Outside of the sludge storage tanks there is a catch basin that is used to collect the supernatant from our sludge dewatering bag systems. This flows into a pump chamber that pumps the supernatant back the aeration ditch for re-treatment. This catch basin was covered in snow and not visible as normal.

It was discovered at 15:00 that one of the valves in the valve gallery was not fully sealed and a portion of the sludge being transferred was leaking unintendedly into the pump chamber connected to the outside catch basin.

The partial flow was discovered once the sludge had flowed backwards into the catch basin and out under the snow cover until it reached the snow cleared access roadway to the WWTP.

Sludge transfer activity was immediately shut down at 15:00 and valving put back to normal and pumped any volume in the catch basin back to Aeration ditch as normal.

Staff closed the access road and got Town owned backhoe and created a snow berm as quickly as possible.

Contacted a local excavating company (Ed Karcher Construction) for an Excavator and Trucks for clean up efforts.

Temperatures below freezing caused the sludge spill to begin freezing and facilitated piling and loading the spilt material mixed with snow already on the ground.

Arran-Elderslie staff assisted with shovelling and piling as excavator scraped up sludge, and snow from roadway.

2 Triaxle truckloads of material were taken to the Chesley Sewage lagoons and dumped at the Cell 1 intake pond corner.

Clean up efforts were complete by 19:50

Spills Action contacted at 16:24 Reference # 1-E9C42S

Contacted again at 19:50 to update that clean up completed

Local MECP office contacted at 16:32– Spoke to Kim (Duty officer)

Saugeen Valley conservation contacted at 16:36 (left message) Tried contacting again Dec4 at 12:39 Left message with General Manager)

Grey Bruce Public Health contacted at 11:47 Dec 4, Called back by Dan at 12:25