



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



Water Quality Complaint Inspection Report

Facility Name: Johnson Utilities Wastewater Collection System	Complaint No: N/a
Physical Location: Morning Sun Circle City, State, Zip: San Tan Valley, AZ	Inspection No.: 306476
County: Pinal	Arrival Date and Time: 7/30/2018 12:15 PM
Mailing Address: N/A City, State, Zip: N/A	Inspector(s): Ryan Fitzpatrick
Coordinates (for new locations): Latitude: Deg.: Min.: Sec.: Longitude: Deg.: Min.: Sec.:	Inspector Phone: 6027715349 Inspector Email: Fitzpatrick.Ryan@azdeq.gov
Owner/Responsible Party: Johnson Utilities, LLC Click here to enter text.	Was Inspection Announced? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Onsite Contact Person(s)/Facility Operator(s): Jed Lant, Johnson Utilities Lead Wastewater Operator James Taylor/ GHD	Weather: Clear/Hot
Nearest Receiving Water, if applicable (indicate distance): N/a	
Inspection Report Issued: Via email from ADEQ office 8/3/18	
Results of Inspection: <input type="checkbox"/> No deficiencies were noted during the course of the inspection. No ADEQ action will result from this inspection. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potential deficiencies were noted during the course of the inspection. Additional correspondence regarding this inspection may be forthcoming.	
Comments: On 7/29/18 ADEQ received a voicemail from Jed Lant, Johnson Utilities Lead Wastewater Operator, notifying the agency of a Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) at a residential area near the San Tan Water Reclamation Plant (WRP). Jed Lant described that a power outage at 8:30 am and a subsequently failed backup generator resulted in a lift station failure and SSO. Jed Lant relayed that Johnson Utilities had responded to the SSO at 10:00 am, and later reported to ADEQ that corrective actions had been completed by 1:30 pm. Please see Attachment C for complete details. On 7/30/18 I initiated an SSO response site visit as a result of an SSO complaint and report via voice mail of the SSO by Johnson Utilities to inspector Isa Valdez. I arrived at site at 12:15 pm. When I arrived Jed Lant was on site pointed out the areas affected by the SSO. James Taylor of GHD also arrived shortly after I did. When I arrived Johnson Utilities employees were washing off portions of the streets with a water truck. We walked to the south manhole (the last manhole prior to the San Tan Wastewater facilities head works). At the south manhole Jed Lant and James Taylor explained to me that the extent of the overflow at the south manhole was between a quarter inch to half inch in depth and ran upgradient about 15 feet. The rest of the flow moved down gradient to the stormwater retention basin. There was no debris on the street. When we approached the rock drainage some small debris (mostly toilet paper) was visible. James Taylor stated that they (GHD/JU) were going to excavate all the rock and grass affected by the SSO within 48 hours after receiving HOA approval, which they would then replace with new rock and grass. At that point ABC 15 showed up and I notified my	

supervisor to inform the PIO the media was on site. We walked over to the manhole at Morning Sun Circle and Village Lane where the Facebook post photo was taken. JU cleaned the debris and washed the debris to the northwest retention pond. JU was going to excavate the material out of this retention basin also and replace with new material. The Arizona Corporation Commission (AZCC) then arrived on site and also review the SSO.

I then walked with Jed Lant to the west retention basin. The grass in the west retention basin had debris on it and was also the larger of the two areas impacted by the SSO. After looking at the west retention basin Andrew Smith of the AZCC and myself talked with the resident who we thought was the main complainant.

The complainant and her husband noticed the SSO running in front of and next to their home at about 10 am on 7/29, and explained that they called JU immediately. They left for church and came back at 1:00 pm and said that Johnson Utilities had still not responded to the SSO. They proceeded to call Pinal County 911; the complainant observed Johnson Utilities at 3:00 pm cleaning the debris and putting down the sodium hypochlorite. The complainant also stated this is the 3rd SSO in the circle this calendar year. She remembered that there was one February/March time frame. After talking with the complainant, I spoke with Jed Lant and asked if there were any other SSO in this area. Jed Lant stated that he knew of one on October 31, 2017 in the same area. Pinal County Road Dept. also was on site to insure no damage to the roads.

Jed Lant and James Taylor explained that Johnson Utilities planned to notify all the neighbors of the incident and the corrective actions and also try to do a press release to address the SSO due to media presence. Jed Lant and James Taylor stated that all excavation was going to be completed within the next 48 hours. Of the 13,000 gallons reported, the estimated breakdown is 9,000 gallons from the south manhole and 4,000 from of the east manhole. Jed Lant and James Taylor stated that they had used 3,000 gal of water and sodium hypochlorite for clean up so far.

They were washing the roads and using vacuum trucks to remove as much water as they could from those basin. I was asked by Jed Lant and James Taylor if there is anything additional I would advised. I advised that JU have an independent 3rd party take soil sample to confirm that the excavation was completed correctly.

On 8/1/18 ADEQ requested the Operations and Maintenance manual, as well as any maintenance logs for the sewage collection system near the San Tan WRP. To date, ADEQ has not received any evidence that the sewage collection system is being operated and maintained according to an approved operations and maintenance manual.

On 8/2/18 during ADEQ's weekly compliance assistance call with Johnson Utilities, James Taylor relayed that Matt Hipsher reported to him that no maintenance on this area of the sewage collection system had been performed in the past calendar year. James Taylor explained that maintenance was scheduled to occur towards the end of the year.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Incident Report Form

Attachment B – Photograph Log

Attachment C – Map

PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN DURING INSPECTIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Description of the Complaint	The complainant reported an SSO at Morning Sun Circle to ADEQ via phone and Facebook.
Observations:	See comments section for observations.
Comments and Potential Deficiencies:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possibility of multiple other SSO's in same location that have not been reported by JU • Repeat SSO's in this area • Potential failure to operate in accordance to operations and maintenance manual



**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
INCIDENT/SPILL REPORT FORM**

Report Taken By: Isa Valdez	Phone # : 602-771-2302	Date Reported: 07/29/2018	Time Reported: 11:02 AM
ERU #:	AZSERC #:	NRC #:	Provisional I.D. #:
Other Agencies Notified: ADEQ Emergency Response Team / Sheriff Department / Pinal County			

CALLER INFORMATION:

Caller Name: Jed Lant	Title: WWTP Operator	Organization: Johnson Utilities	Address:
Phone #: 480-798-0413	Incident Date: 7/29/2018	Incident Time: 8:30 AM – WRP power outage & spill occurred: approx. 10:00 AM	Other: Corrective actions finished at 1:30 PM

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY INFORMATION:

Potential Responsible Party Name: Johnson Utilities		Type of Operation: Wastewater Treatment and Sewage Collection System		
Address: 5230 E Shea Blvd. Ste. 200	City: Scottsdale	County: Maricopa	State: AZ	Zip Code: 85254
Phone #: 480-987-9819	2nd Phone #:	Other:		

INCIDENT LOCATION/INFORMATION:

Site Location Description/Directions: San Tan WRP – Collection System and residential area.				
Street Address:	City: Queen Creek	County: Pinal	State: AZ	Zip Code: 85142
GPS Coordinates:	Highway # & Milepost # Village Lane and Morning Sun Circle		Railroad Milepost #	
Distance to Sensitive Environment/Population (Describe): Within residential area				

INCIDENT DESCRIPTION:

Incident Type\Description: Power outage at San Tan WRP – Power company shut down electrical power and backup generator failed, within 20 minutes of working.
Incident Source: The power outage caused the influent lift station to back up and overflow at Morning Sun Circle.
Incident Cause: Two areas overflowed. One located at Village Lane and Morning Sun Circle. The second area was along Morning Sun Circle.
Affected Media (air, soil, water); Extent, Body of Water Name: The road where manholes are located and the retention basin
Witnesses: The residents from adjacent houses.

MATERIALS INVOLVED:

Material Name:	CAS #:	Physical State:	Container Type:	Quantity :	Units:
Sewage				Approx. 13,000 gallons	

DAMAGE DESCRIPTION:

Responding OSC:	Responsible for Cleanup: Johnson Utilities – WW Crew	Referred To:
# of Injuries: None	# of Deaths: None	Property Damage in \$:
Evacuation Zone:		
Remedial Action: The WW crew responded for remediation activities. The raw sewage was washed down two retention basins. The crew pumped out the sewage and returned to the WRP. The stormwater retention basins were disinfected with sodium hypochlorite.		
Environmental Consultant/Cleanup Contractor (Name and Address): Johnson Utilities		

ADDITIONAL DETAILS/COMMENTS:

Jed Lant left a voicemail on 07/29/2018, he communicated that an SSO took place due to a power outage at San Tan WRP. The backup generator failed and caused the SSO in the lowest manholes.
The 1 st spill occurred at the intersection of Village Lane and Morning Sun Circle, the area that overflow was a 6-inch opening. The second overflow area was along Morning Sun Circle, a manhole. They washed down the sewer down into a stormwater retention basin. Corrective actions included, they picked up all debris and trash released. A water truck was filled out with water diluted with disinfectant and washed the sewage towards the stormwater retention basins. The sewage was pumped out and returned to the WRP.
Jed Lant commented that power company gave notice to Johnson Utilities that the power was going to be out, this occurred couple of weekends ago. They prepared for it and prepared the backup generators. However when the actual power outage occurred the backup generator failed to work properly and stopped working after 20 minutes.
Chris Nutter from ADEQ – Emergency Response visited the site.

Program Proposed to be Assigned:	GW Protection and Reuse Value Stream – Inspection and Compliance Unit.
Date Assigned:	Program Assigned:
Assigned by:	

JU SSO (Morning Sun Circle) 7/30/18

Photo #2446



Photo #2447



Photo #2448



Photo #2449



Photo #2450



Photo #2451



Photo #2452



Photo #2453



Photo #2454



Photo #2455



Photo #2456



Photo #2457



Photo #2458



Photo #2459



Photo #2460



Photo #2461



Photo #2462



Photo #2463



Photo #2464



Photo #2465



Photo #2466





Effectuated Retention Basin 2
Estimated 4,000 Gal

Photo #2459, 2460, 2461

Photo #2457, 2458

Photo #2462

Effectuated Retention Basin 1
Estimated 9,000 Gal

Photo #2463, 2464

Photo # 2448, 2449, 2450

Sewage Flow Direction

Photo #2451, 2452

Photo #2453, 2454, 2455, 2456

Photo #2465, 2466

Photo #2447

Sewage
Flow
Direction

Photo #2446

South Manhole

Morning Sun Circle

Village Lane

Hunt Hwy

JU Sewer line to San Tan

Google