



**Wastewater Treatment Division**

South Treatment Plant  
1200 Monster Road Southwest  
Renton, WA 98057

July 27, 2020

Shawn McKone  
Washington State Department of Ecology  
Northwest Regional Office  
3190 160th Avenue Southeast  
Bellevue, Washington 98008-5452

Terry Clements  
Seattle-King County Dept. of Public Health  
Environmental Health Division  
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1100  
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: Sanitary Sewer Overflow - King County's Vashon Island Bunker Trail Pump Station 4  
July 23, 2020

Dear Mr. McKone and Ms. Clements:

On July 23, 2020, approximately 1,000 gallons or less of wastewater spilled from the 2.5-inch diameter force main that serves King County's Bunker Trail Pump Station 4 (BT4) on Vashon Island. BT4 is one of four in-series pump stations that serve the homes and businesses near the Vashon Ferry Landing. These pump stations convey wastewater to King County's Vashon Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The spill started around 9 a.m. when an electrical contractor was boring under the Vashon Highway near the John L. Scott Realtor office at 13401 Vashon Highway S.W. The contractor noticed a smell of wastewater coming from the boring hole, stopped his activities, and notified King County Wastewater. BT4 was turned off within 10 minutes of the notification, and two additional wastewater sources were isolated that tie into the force main upstream of the boring location.

The contractor excavated an area in the location where the boring alignment appeared to cross the HDPE force main. A small break was subsequently found on the top of the HDPE force main. See photos at the end of this letter. The contractor installed a pipe band clamp as a temporary repair. BT4 and the additional sources were both back in service by 6 p.m. that day.

The spilled wastewater was contained in the excavation used by the contractor to complete the repairs, as well as in surrounding soils. A vacuum truck was used to remove the spilled material from the excavation, hauling it off island to a proper disposal site. It was estimated that about 1,000 gallons or less of water was removed from the excavation by the vacuum truck. This spill estimate is in line with the volume of force main located uphill from the break.

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Permanent repairs to the force main will be completed in one to two weeks after parts arrive. In the meantime, a steel plate and asphalt have been placed over the excavation (on the east shoulder of the highway) until which time a permanent repair can be completed.

If you have any questions about this overflow event, please feel free to contact me at 206-263-9481. We will keep you informed of the repairs.

Sincerely,



Robert Waddle  
Operations and Maintenance Manager

cc: Mark Isaacson, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD),  
Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)  
Bruce Kessler, Deputy Division Director, WTD, DNRP  
Jeff Lafer, Project/Program Manager, WTD, DNRP  
Monica Van der Vieren, Community Relations, WTD, DNRP  
Doug Marsano, Community Relations, WTD, DNRP

