

WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

TROY K. TANIGAWA, P.E., COUNTY ENGINEER

BOYD GAYAGAS, DEPUTY COUNTY ENGINEER



DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR
REIKO MATSUYAMA, MANAGING DIRECTOR

August 19, 2024

Hawaii State Department of Health
Environmental Management Division Wastewater Branch
2827 Waimano Home Road
Hale Ola Building, Room 207
Pearl City, HI 96782
Attn: Jonathan Nagato, P.E., Engineer

Subject: SEWAGE SPILL AT COCO PALMS SEWER PUMP STATION (SPS)

Dear Mr. Nagato:

This is to confirm that a sewage spill occurred at the Coco Palms Sewer Pump Station (SPS) on August 15, 2024 and is submitted pursuant to Hawaii Administrative Rule (HAR) Title 11 Chapter 62, Wastewater Systems, Appendix B notification requirement.

The spill occurred on August 15, 2024, from approximately 12:03 pm until about 12:50 pm, due to the failure of the UPS which caused the pumps to be inoperable. The spill was estimated to be on the order of 300 gallons. The spill occurred at a sewer manhole within the vicinity of the pump station and flowed into the adjacent low south area that was fenced off and used as a construction yard.

Note that we had similar incident on April 30, 2024 where the failure of a critical pump controller resulted in the spill of about 6,000 gallons of raw sewage. Fortunately, the Assistant WWTP Plant Operator was on site at the time of the spill and was able to quickly pump down the wet well and prevent any further spilling.

Mitigation efforts included pumping the standing material and disinfecting the area.

The Wastewater Management Division is working on new improvements to the electrical system to prevent future incidents.

If you have any questions, please contact Donald Fujimoto, Chief, Wastewater Management Division at (808) 241-4083 or dfujimoto@kauai.gov

Sincerely,


Troy Tanigawa

Troy Tanigawa (Aug 19, 2024 13:54 HST)

Troy K. Tanigawa, P.E.
County Engineer