



## City of Bluff City

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Ms. Sandra Vance, Environmental Protection Specialist  
Division of Water Resource  
Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC)  
Johnson City Environmental Field Office  
2305 Silverdale Road  
Johnson City, TN 37601-2162

Re: Town of Bluff City, TN (SOP-98042)

Dear Ms. Vance:

This Letter is in reference to a verbal and/or email report of an overflow from the wastewater collection system on **April 13, 2020** by town personnel. This overflow occurred at manhole at the address of **4434 Bluff City Highway**

1. The overflow consisted of discharge from manhole, at the property of 4434 Bluff City Highway. The overflow discharged from the manhole, flowing along the fence line into to the lake bed. This event was a wet weather event where overall we received over 3+ inches of rain in a 7 hour period of time. This overflow did make it to the lake bed.
2. The overflow was discovered by me, Mr. Allen Moultrie at 12:01 am, of which we received the high well level at the 44 Igloo pump station at 10:53 pm. Both pumps at site were pumping when the alarm was triggered. Staff stayed on site and saw that well level was getting high at a rapid rate. Prior to the event occurrence the City of Bluff City called and placed, Steven's Septic, and Captain Septic service on stand-by anticipating the possibility of an upcoming event.
3. When alarms was triggered we called in Captain septic at 10:59 pm, Steven's septic at 10:54 pm. I arrived on site at 11:08 pm went down to the 44 Igloo pump station saw that level was getting high and was rising at a steady rate we dispatched all trucks on stand-by. Following the visit to the 44 igloo pump station I went down to 4434 Bluff City Highway to check status of cleanout and manhole saw that we had a release coming from the manhole at 12:01 am. I contacted the Johnson City State office 12:14 am and left a message regarding the occurrence of this event.

Captain Septic arrived first at 11:29 pm and was sent to the 44 igloo pump station followed by Steven's septic service which at 12:59 am. Steven's septic service brought out their 2500 gallon truck of which we wanted the 4000 gallon truck is

why their arrival was later than expected. Later in the morning we dispatched Steven's Septic 2500 gallon truck also. We ended up sending Captain septic to the 390 Bridge Pump station at 1:09 am. All sewage was then hauled to the Bristol Treatment plant on Beaver Creek Rd. When I called Bristol Treatment plant at 3:57 am, on whether or not we could add another truck to haul loads. I was told that they was nearing overflow at the plant and we wouldn't be able to haul any more loads to their plant. Overflow was completely stopped by 7:00 am of which we had continue overflowing throughout the morning from the time we were told we couldn't haul anymore loads. I estimate that we had 105,000 gallons released from manhole, which was estimated off of a release of 250 GPM. During the time the trucks was pumping at both sites we were never able to keep up with the amount of flow we were receiving. Attached with this document is a timeline with pictures taken of this event.

4. No BOD samples were taken of the overflow.
5. Our noncompliance was due to heavy rain showers of which we received 3 inches of rain according to the igloo pump station rain gauge, which caused significant I & I issues causing the sanitary sewer systems issues leading into the release.
6. Overflow was stopped with the help of sewer pump trucks hauling a total of 10 loads, from the 44 igloo pump station and 390 bridge pump station. From there we had to wait until pumps were able to catch up with amount of flow we were receiving during this wet weather event. During this event we hauled 10 loads totaling 29,400 gallons with all 3 trucks that was present.
7. The effected area where overflow occurred has been cleaned, raked, and treated with lime by city employees.

I wish to thank you for your assistance in documenting this event. Please feel free to call if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Mr. Allen Moultrie  
Public Works Supervisor