




INFORMATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	January 10, 2020
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	CSO Storage Tank Overflow Event Reporting – HW.20.01
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Nick Winters Director, Water and Wastewater Operations Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

This Information Update is to advise Mayor Eisenberger and Members of Council that beginning today, Hamilton Water will provide public notification of all overflow events at the monitored outfall locations for the City's nine combined sewage overflow (CSO) tanks.

On November 4, 2019, staff provided a report and presentation to the Public Works Committee (PW 19091), which committed to launching an enhanced web portal for the real-time reporting of both wastewater treatment plant bypass and CSO events in Q2 of 2020. Planning for this portal is currently underway and on-track to launch prior to the end of June 2020.

As an interim measure in advance of the live portal and to address direction from Council on November 27, 2019, staff have implemented a semi-automated reporting protocol similar to the wastewater treatment plant bypass reporting, for overflow events at the nine outfall locations associated with the CSO storage tanks. The remaining four monitored CSO locations (not associated with CSO storage tanks), have more complex requirements and will be added to the real time public notice protocol once the live portal is completed in Q2 2020.

The interim protocol will update the webpage www.hamilton.ca/wastewatermonitoring with overflow information for the CSO storage tanks upon initiation of an overflow event and an "Active Wastewater Treatment Plant Bypass or CSO Storage Tank Overflow" banner will be initiated on this webpage and the City of Hamilton homepage www.hamilton.ca. Council will receive a notification of the initiation similar to the notification currently received regarding wastewater treatment plant bypasses. During

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SUBJECT: CSO Storage Tank Overflow Event Reporting (City Wide) Page 2 of 2

the event, the website will be regularly monitored and updated (between 7am and 10pm daily), as conditions change. In addition, a media release will be issued within 24 hours of a bypass or CSO tank overflow event commencing.

Upon completion of an active overflow, the website banner will be updated to read “A Wastewater Treatment Plant Bypass or CSO Storage Tank Overflow has Occurred Within the Last 48 Hours” and the webpage log will be updated with overflow duration and volumes for each site where an overflow occurred. After 48 hours, the banner will be removed from the City of Hamilton homepage and the www.hamilton.ca/wastewatermonitoring webpage will be updated with a “No active Wastewater Treatment Plant Bypasses or CSO Storage Tank Overflow Events” banner.

The weather forecast for this weekend January 10 to 12 calls for significant rainfall for the Hamilton area. With between 65mm to 90mm of rainfall predicted, it is possible that a plant bypass and/or CSO storage tank overflow may occur. Staff are prepared to initiate the protocol for this rainfall event should it be required.

Should you have any questions regarding this update, please contact Nick Winters, Director, Water & Wastewater Operations, (905) 546-2424 Extension 1474.

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