



P.O. Box 226 • Seneca, KS 66538 • 785/336-3760  
FAX 785/336-2751 • <http://www.krwa.net>

June 24, 2010

Mike Clowe  
City of Wetmore  
PO Box 248  
Wetmore KS 66550

Dear Mike,

As requested, I assisted you in addressing plugged discharge pipes at the city's lagoon on June 23, 2010.

When I arrived, the final cell was almost ready to flow over the dike near the discharge structure. There was some discharge through the pipes but it was not flowing as well as it should have been. This high level may have been in part to the several large rain events the past week. I recommended you to call KDHE and inform them that the cell was almost overflowing and that you may have bypass over the dike. I believe your permit requires you to notify KDHE when the water level any cell is within 2 feet of the top of the cell walls. The level between the top of the cell walls and the water level is called "freeboard"; two feet is maximum level the cells are allowed to reach.

We used a pump and a flow-through inflatable plug to force water through the discharge pipe from the effluent structure to dislodge any debris that was probably on the turtle guard, restricting discharge from this cell. We also made sure that the middle and upper discharge pipe gates were open. It appeared the cell had lowed about an inch in a short amount of time after we had used the equipment to remove debris. There is large amount of moss type algae, such as is found in farm ponds, in this cell. I believe that is what was caught on the turtle guard and restricted the discharge.

You mentioned that you would purchase similar type equipment for future use to prevent future problems of possible bypass. I am also enclosing a KDHE bypass report form in case you may need it in future.

Please call if you have any questions. KRWA appreciates the opportunity to provide assistance to your system and your support as members.

Sincerely,

Charlie Schwindamann  
Wastewater Tech

Enclosures

CS: ejr

C: Edgar Claycamp, Mayor

Vic Montgomery, KDHE, Lawrence

## Causes of Wastewater Bypass – Definitions

Bypass for Repair/Construction	Intentional bypass for maintenance or construction activities
Rainfall	Excessive rainfall, snowmelt, etc.
Construction Related Failure	Unplanned bypass related to damage from construction activities
City Line Failure	Line failure not caused by construction activities
Private Line Failure	Private sewer line failure for any reason
City Line Blockage	Blockage in the city line causing a wastewater discharge
Private Line Blockage	Blockage in the private line causing a discharge from the private line
Equipment Failure	Equipment breakdown
Control System Failure	Control system failed to start equipment or indicate an alarm
Power Related Failure	Loss of power to equipment including control/alarm system
Maintenance Related Bypass	Failure to provide timely or proper maintenance
Vandalism	Intentional equipment damage/adding illicit materials to collection system leading to a bypass
Lagoon High Level	Backing wastewater into a system causing a bypass overtopping a lagoon cell
Operations Related Bypass	Failure to provide timely and proper operations control - such as respond to alarms, failure to power up equipment, restrict controllable inflows, etc.
Spill	Spillage of waste, usually not directly from the system - such as during loading or hauling/disposing of wastewater or sludge

**KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT  
WASTEWATER BYPASS REPORT FORM**

1. FACILITY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Kansas Permit # \_\_\_\_\_

2. Within 24 Hours of Discovery, Notify the KDHE Central Office (email – [cseeds@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:cseeds@kdhe.state.ks.us)), (fax 785.296.0086), (telephone 785.296.5517) or your KDHE local district office. Written notification required within 5 days of discovery.

KDHE Person Contacted: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Date Bypass Discovered: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Date Bypass Ended: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Total Estimated Gallons Bypassed for All Locations on this Form: \_\_\_\_\_

6. If rainfall event, approximate inches of rainfall \_\_\_\_\_

If multiple bypass locations listed below due to rain event, check here \_\_\_\_\_

7. Bypass Location: (check all that apply)

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| _____ Plant                               | _____ City Collection Line  |
| _____ Lift/Pump Station                   | _____ Private Sewer Line    |
| _____ Peak Flow Basin                     | _____ Other (specify below) |
| _____ Manhole(s) (list manhole #'s below) |                             |

8. Cause of Bypass: (definitions available at <http://www.kdheks.gov/water/tech.html>)

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| _____ Intentional Bypass for Repair/Construction | _____ Equipment Failure           |
| _____ Excessive Rainfall, Snow Melt              | _____ Control System Failure      |
| _____ Unplanned Construction Related Break       | _____ Power Related Failure       |
| _____ City Line Break (Not Construction Related) | _____ Operations Related Failure  |
| _____ City Line Blockage                         | _____ Maintenance Related Failure |
| _____ Private Line Break                         | _____ Vandalism                   |
| _____ Private Line Blockage                      | _____ Spill                       |
| _____ Lagoon High Level                          | _____ Other                       |

Additional explanation of reason for bypass: (use additional page if necessary)

9. Corrective Action, if any: (use additional page if necessary)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

When Completed, Mail to: Kansas Department of Health and Environment  
Attn: Chris Seeds  
1000 SW Jackson St., Suite 420  
Topeka, KS 66612-1367