OTTUMWA

CITY OF BRIDGES...RIVER OF OPPORTUNITY

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IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FO6

July 22, 2011

To: James T. Sievers
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Field Office # 6
1023 W. Madison St.
Washington, IA 52353-1623

James,

This letter is to serve as a written follow up to our conversation Tuesday, July 19, 2011 regarding the leak from the force main south of our main Airport pump station. As I told you earlier, (and also Paul Brandt on Monday, July 18, 2011), this leak had been reported to our Public Works Department on Monday afternoon 7-18-11. I was notified by them just before 4 P.M. that there was a possible leak near 14231 Sycamore Road by R.J Performance. I went out to the site to investigate with one of my operators and found some water standing in the low lying area of the ditch. We could see where water came up through the ground off and on (when our pumps cycled) and it definitely had the smell of the wastewater that comes from our bottling company at the airport, so we knew it was our force main. We immediately called for locates, notified Paul Brandt(IDNR), Ottumwa Public Works Director Larry Seals, and Kevin Sylvester and Robin Fitzsimmons of the sewer crew, and also Bob Bruett and the business on that property (R.J. Performance.)

I had our Industrial Pretreatment Coordinator, Steve Cullinan, call the Dr. Pepper/Snapple group to let them know of the situation. By this time it was already after 5 P.M. and locates would probably not have been completed in time to have gotten this repair done safely on the 18th.

We had all locates completed by 7:30 A.M. the next morning, and had the sewer crew (which would be doing the excavation) meet us at the site to start the repair project. We found a hole about the size of a quarter in the 10 inch pipe. There were a couple of places nearby on the pipe that showed that there were the beginnings of some more holes. Fortunately, they were all within the span of the band with which we repaired the pipe. After affixing the band, all leaking stopped. We watched through several cycles of the pumps running at our main Airport pump station, and were satisfied that there were no more leaks. The repair to the pipe was completed by 10:20 A.M., Tuesday, July 19, 2011. We finished liming all affected areas by 11:15 A.M. Our sewer crew backfilled the hole with gravel, and then with dirt.

There was very little water underground and only a small amount on the surface of the ground, though the soil was soft as experienced by an IDOT tractor which had mowed that area and left ruts just that morning. There did not appear to be any leaks in this area when we had a leak in

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the same line (approx. 100 ft. to the south) on May 4, 2011. I would estimate that there were no more than 3,000 to 5,000 gallons of wastewater that leaked from the pipe.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Respectfully,

Kam Reeves

Kam Reeves
Operations' Supervisor
City of Ottumwa, WPCF
641-683-0641