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June 7, 2018
GO2-18-083
DIC 409

EFSEC Manager
Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
P.O. Box 43172
Olympia, WA 98504-3172

ELECTRONIC SUBMITTAL ONLY

Subject: **COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION**
EVAPORATION POND LINE BREAK NOTIFICATION

Reference: NPDES Permit No. WA002515-1

Energy Northwest is providing a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) 5-day report for the evaporation pond line break that occurred between evaporation ponds 1B and 2 on June 4, 2018 at the Columbia Generating Station. Energy Northwest previously provided a verbal notification to the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) and an e-mail notification to both EFSEC and the Washington State Department of Ecology on Tuesday, June 5, 2018.

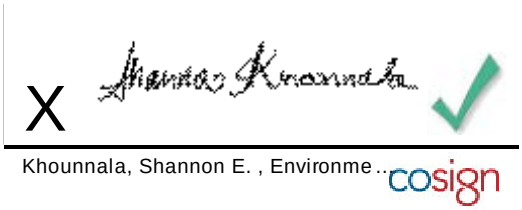
NPDES Certification Statement

I certify under penalty of law, that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

If you have any questions concerning this information, please contact WK Whitehead at (509) 377-8794.

Sincerely,

06/06/18 17:58:31 -07:00



Shannon E. Khounnala
Environmental and Regulatory Programs Manager

Enclosure

cc: S. Bumpus (EFSEC, email)
A. Moon (EFSEC, email)
K. Wilson (WDOE, email)
E. Key (WDOE, email)

SEK/nb

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WK Whitehead	PE03	MJ Ramos	PE03	Docket File	PE20

National Pollution Discharge Elimination System 5-Day Report

Description of evaporation pond line break and cause

At 4:30 PM on June 4, 2018, the soil on the east side of evaporation pond cistern number 1, which is located between evaporation ponds 1B and 2, was found to be washed out and flowing into evaporation pond 2. A portion of the soil from the washed out area was pushed down the hillside and deposited into evaporation pond 2. See Figure 2B for the location of cistern 1. Evaporation pond 1B receives backwash water from the potable water filter plant, reverse osmosis filtrate, and fire test water. These non-power block wastewaters are typically routed to ponds 1A, 1B, and 2, where the water can be utilized for construction water or road watering. The truck fill pump, located at cistern number 1, has the capability of pumping water stored in evaporation pond 1B to evaporation pond 1A. Energy Northwest has determined that the PVC line from pond 1B to 1A began to leak a short distance downstream of the truck fill pump discharge.

At 4:30 PM, Energy Northwest personnel shutdown the truck fill pump located at cistern 1. One of the functions of the truck fill pump is to transfer water from evaporation pond 1B to 1A. Once the pump was shut off the person noticed that the hillside had washed out near the cistern. A short while later the flow down the hillside ceased and the area began to dry up.

Estimated time period that water flowed to the soil

Energy Northwest believes that the evaporation pond water flowed to the soil and to evaporation pond 2 for approximately 2 hours. Personnel visited the evaporation ponds at 1:30 PM on June 4th and did not see any evidence of the pipe failure near cistern 1. When they returned later that afternoon at 4:30 PM they observed the leak.

Estimated time that Energy Northwest expects the release to continue

The evaporation pond discharge ceased at 4:30 PM on June 4, 2018.

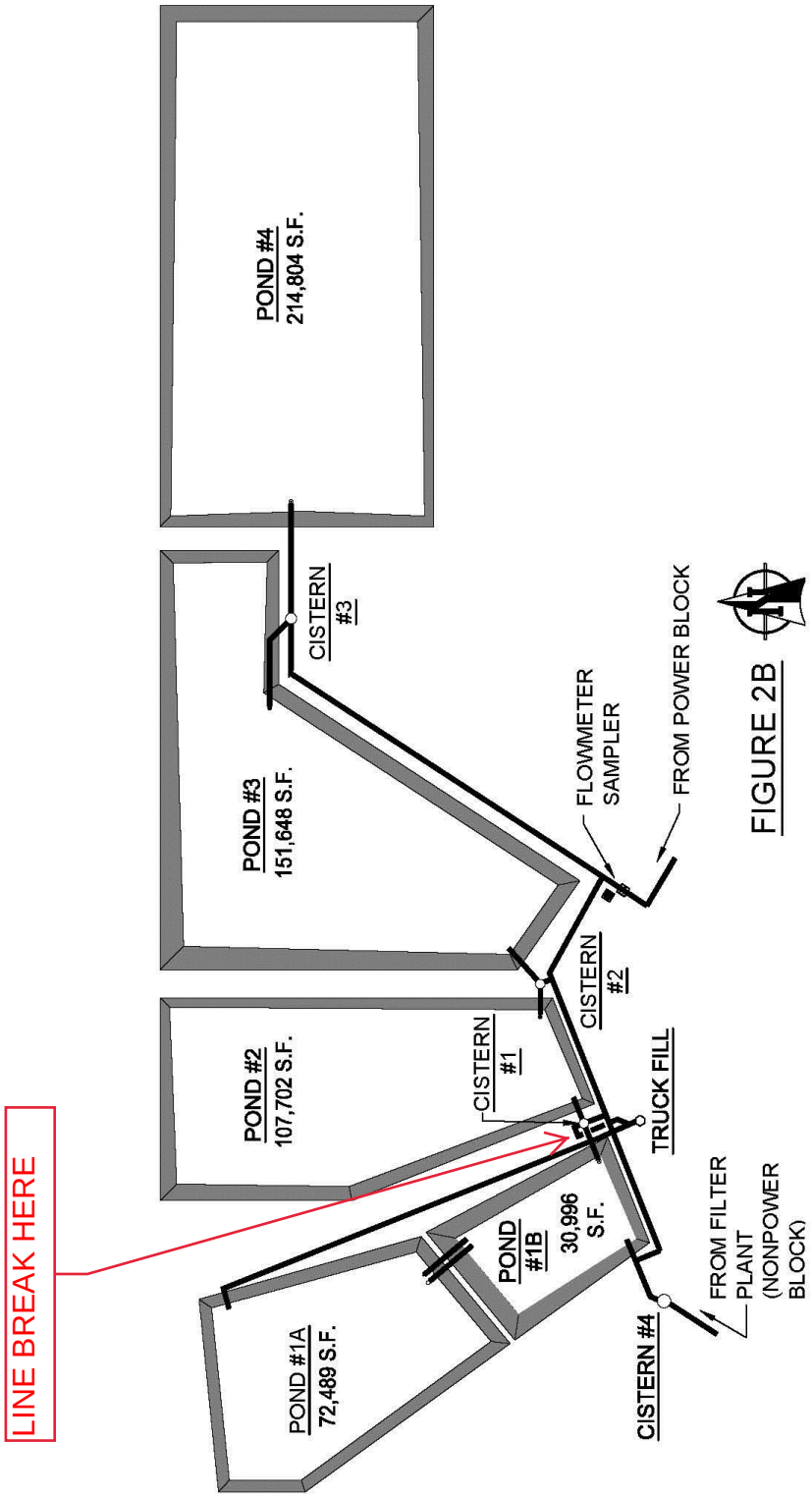
Steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence

Shortly after the event, the evaporation pond system valves were realigned to bypass evaporation ponds 1A/1B and the backwash water from the potable water filter plant, reverse osmosis filtrate, and fire test water were routed to evaporation pond 2. Once the problem was identified feed was routed back to evaporation pond 1B. Flow from evaporation pond 1B to evaporation pond 1A will be isolated until the line break is repaired.

Estimate of the quantity of water that was released

Energy Northwest conservatively estimates that approximately 4,200 gallons of evaporation pond water was released.

Enclosure



Source: Operation and Maintenance Manual For Stormwater/Industrial Wastewater Evaporation System, Energy Northwest Columbia Generating Station, Figure 2B