



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF  
ECW-15J

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Mayor Curtis McCall Sr.  
City of Cahokia Heights  
103 Main Street  
Cahokia Heights, Illinois 62206  
rwilliams@centownil.com

Subject: March 8-9, 2022 Inspection Trip Report for City of Cahokia Heights

Dear Mayor McCall:

Enclosed, please find a copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Inspection Trip Report that describes and documents the observation made by the EPA inspection team in the City of Cahokia Heights on March 8 and March 9, 2022.

The purpose of the reconnaissance inspection in the City of Cahokia Heights was to observe locations where sanitary sewer overflows have happened in the past and document their condition on the date of inspection.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, or the inspection trip report, please contact Ted Flatebo at (312) 886-9402 or at [flatebo.ted@epa.gov](mailto:flatebo.ted@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

**Bahr, Ryan**  
Digitally signed by Bahr,  
Ryan  
Date: 2022.03.25  
07:52:32 -05'00'

Ryan J. Bahr  
Supervisor, Section 2 Water Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Branch

Enclosure

cc: Todd Bennett, Illinois EPA [Todd.Bennett@Illinois.gov]  
Sanjay Sofat, Illinois EPA [Sanjay.Sofat@Illinois.gov]  
Joe Stitely, Illinois EPA [Joe.Stitely@Illinois.gov]

**Purpose:** NPDES SSO Inspection Trip Report

**Facility:** City of Cahokia Heights, Illinois

**NPDES ID Number (No NPDES Permit):** ILN000019

**Dates of Inspection:** March 8, 2022 – March 9, 2022

**Illinois EPA Inspectors:** None

**EPA Inspectors:**

Dean Maraldo, EPA Region 5; (312) 353-2098; [maraldo.dean@epa.gov](mailto:maraldo.dean@epa.gov)

Joan Rogers, EPA Region 5; (312) 886-2785; [rogers.joan@epa.gov](mailto:rogers.joan@epa.gov)

Ted Flatebo, EPA Region 5; (312) 886-9402; [flatebo.ted@epa.gov](mailto:flatebo.ted@epa.gov)

**City of Cahokia Heights Representatives:** None

**Inspection Trip Report Prepared by:**

Ted Flatebo, EPA Region 5 Inspector

EPA Inspector Signature: THEODORE FLATEBO Digitally signed by THEODORE  
FLATEBO  
Date: 2022.03.14 13:48:27 -05'00'

EPA Inspector Signature: DINO MARALDO Digitally signed by DINO  
MARALDO  
Date: 2022.03.15 07:03:41 -05'00'

EPA Inspector Signature: JOAN ROGERS Digitally signed by JOAN ROGERS  
Date: 2022.03.15 09:09:37 -05'00'

**Approver Name & Title:**

Ryan Bahr, Manager, Water Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Branch Section 2

Approval Signature and Date: Bahr, Ryan Digitally signed by Bahr, Ryan  
Date: 2022.03.22 15:59:34 -05'00'

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## I. INTRODUCTION

On March 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022, EPA inspectors Dean Maraldo, Joan Rogers, and Ted Flatebo conducted a Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) reconnaissance inspection in the City of Cahokia Heights and observed chronic SSO locations and other areas of interest to document whether there were discharges of sanitary waste or there was evidence of recent discharges. There had not been any rain within the prior 24 hours before the observations.

This trip report summarizes the inspection observations. The following personnel were involved in the inspection:

EPA Inspectors:     Dean Maraldo, Inspector/Enforcement Officer  
                          Joan Rogers, Inspector/Enforcement Officer  
                          Ted Flatebo, Inspector/Enforcement Officer

## II. INSPECTION ACTIVITY SUMMARY – MARCH 8, 2022

### Location #1: Cleanout on North 82<sup>nd</sup> Street

EPA inspectors arrived at the cleanout overflow location on North 82<sup>nd</sup> Street at 12:15PM. The cleanout was discharging at the time of observation. According to City of Cahokia Heights Sewer Department representative Dennis Traiteur, this cleanout had been discharging continuously since February 17, 2022. See Photo 1.

### Location #2: Lift Station at North 82<sup>nd</sup> Street and Bluff Street

EPA inspectors arrived at the lift station at the intersection of North 82<sup>nd</sup> Street and Bluff Street at 12:20PM. The lift station structure fencing was not secured and the lid to the structure was not locked. The above ground structure was holding water. The pump in this structure did not have belts attached to it, although it is no longer in use due to the installation of submersible pumps. See Photo 2.

### Location #3: Lift Station at North 82<sup>nd</sup> Street and Bellview Avenue

EPA inspectors arrived at the lift station located near the intersection of North 82<sup>nd</sup> Street and Bellview Avenue at 12:25PM. The above ground structure lid was not locked. The above ground structure was not holding water. The pump in this structure did not have belts attached to it, although it is no longer in use due to the installation of submersible pumps.

### Location #4: Connection to City of East St. Louis Sanitary Sewer

EPA inspectors arrived at a sanitary sewer system connection point between the City of Cahokia Heights and the City of East St. Louis located near the intersection of North 82<sup>nd</sup> Street and Ridge Avenue at 12:29PM. The inspectors did not open the manhole but did not note any concerns at this location on the day of the inspection.

#### Location #5: Lady of Snows Lift Station

EPA inspectors arrived at the Lady of the Snows lift station located near the intersection of Illinois Route 157 and Missouri Avenue at 12:38PM. The submersible pumps were running at the time of observation and were pumping water through a temporary above ground pipe and discharging it to a manhole adjacent to Missouri Avenue. There was dried material around the top of the wet well. See Photo 3.

### **III. INSPECTION ACTIVITY SUMMARY – MARCH 9, 2022**

#### Location #1: Cleanout on North 82<sup>nd</sup> Street

EPA inspectors arrived at the cleanout overflow location on North 82<sup>nd</sup> Street at 10:10AM. The cleanout was discharging at the time of observation. The condition of the cleanout and surrounding area were the same as observed on March 8, 2022. See Photo 4.

#### Location #2: Outfall to Canal Number 1

EPA inspectors arrived at an Outfall to Canal Number 1 located off of North 80<sup>th</sup> Street at 10:14AM. This is the connection for all flows from the cleanout on North 82<sup>nd</sup> Street to Canal Number 1. At the time of observation there was water flowing into Canal Number 1.

#### Location #3: Lady of Snows Lift Station

EPA inspectors arrived at the Lady of the Snows lift station located near the intersection of Illinois Route 157 and Missouri Avenue at 10:29AM. The submersible pumps were running at the time of observation and were pumping water through a temporary above ground pipe and discharging it to a manhole adjacent to Missouri Avenue. Conditions were the same as observed on March 8, 2022.

#### Location #4: Lift Station at Lauralee Drive and Violet Drive

EPA inspectors arrived at the lift station near the intersection of Lauralee Drive and Violet Drive at 10:41AM. The lift station was not overflowing. The lift station was not secured. An abandoned lift station wet well is located next to the current lift station. The top of that wet well was also not secured. Inspectors observed a portable pump located in a field approximately 200 feet northeast of the lift station. Portions of this field were flooded and holding stagnant water at the time of observation. It was unclear if this pump was pumping water into the sanitary sewer system. See Photo 5.

#### Location #5: Route 157 Lift Station

EPA inspectors arrived at the lift station located near the intersection of Illinois Route 157 and Church Road at 10:56AM. This is also called the Railroad lift station by the City of Cahokia Heights. This lift station had a tow-behind pump parked in front of it with hoses going into the

wet well and an adjacent manhole. The pump was not running at the time of observation. See Photos 6 and 7.

Location #6: Pocket Road Lift Station

EPA inspectors arrived at the Pocket Road lift station near the intersection of Pocket Road and Missouri Avenue at 11:14AM. There was no evidence of any recent sanitary sewer overflows at this lift station.

Location #7: Manhole near North 73<sup>rd</sup> Street and State Street

EPA inspectors arrived at a manhole on North 73<sup>rd</sup> Street south of the intersection with State Street at 11:50AM. This manhole is adjacent to a lift station and had been previously identified as a safety concern because it did not have a manhole cover and was holding stagnant water. The city placed a large concrete block on the open manhole. See Photo 8.

## **Attachment 1 – Photo Log**

**City of Cahokia Heights  
EPA Inspection March 8-9, 2022  
All photos taken by Ted Flatebo, Environmental Engineer, U.S. EPA  
Camera: Ricoh WG-4**



1: RIMG0041

Description: Active discharge of sanitary waste from cleanout.

Location: North 82<sup>nd</sup> Street.

Date/Time: March 8, 2022, 12:15PM





2: RIMG0042

Description: Above ground lift station structure. Note belts are off the pump and structure is holding stagnant water.

Location: Intersection of North 82<sup>nd</sup> Street and Bluff Street.

Date/Time: March 8, 2022, 12:19PM



3: RIMG0043

Description: Lady of the Snows lift station wet well. Note dried debris on concrete wet well cover and temporary above ground piping.

Location: Near the intersection of Illinois Route 157 and Missouri Avenue.

Date/Time: March 8, 2022, 12:41PM





4: RIMG0044

Description: Active discharge of sanitary waste from cleanout.

Location: North 82<sup>nd</sup> Street.

Date/Time: March 9, 2022, 10:09AM



5: RIMG0045

Description: Pump in an agricultural field. Note field is flooded and holding stagnant water.

Location: Approximately 200 feet northeast of the intersection of Lauralee Drive and Violet Drive.

Date/Time: March 9, 2022, 10:42AM





6: RIMG0046

Description: Tow-behind pump with hose going into lift station wet well.

Location: Near the intersection of Illinois Route 157 and Church Road.

Date/Time: March 9, 2022, 10:55AM



7: RIMG0047

Description: Hose from tow-behind pump going into adjacent manhole.

Location: Near the intersection of Illinois Route 157 and Church Road.

Date/Time: March 9, 2022, 10:56AM





8: RIMG0048

Description: Concrete block covering open manhole.

Location: On North 73<sup>rd</sup> Street, just south of the intersection with State Street.

Date/Time: March 9, 2022, 11:50AM