

March 8, 2013

NPDES Compliance Coordinator  
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Water Pollution Control  
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249

**Re: Report of Minor Leak of Treated Groundwater from Effluent Pipeline  
NPDES Permit NV0023060**

Dear NPDES Compliance Coordinator:

The Nevada Environmental Response Trust (NERT) maintains NPDES Permit NV0023060 for discharge of treated water to the Las Vegas Wash, as part of their on-going effort to capture and treat groundwater containing perchlorate in the Henderson area. Per Section II.A.3., *Noncompliance, Unauthorized Discharge, Bypassing and Upset*, of the permit, ENVIRON International Corporation (ENVIRON), on behalf of NERT, informed Mr. Cliff Lawson, Bureau of Water Pollution Control, via voicemail on March 1, 2013, that a minor leak of treated groundwater (meeting discharge limitations) from the effluent pipeline occurred on Friday, March 1, 2013. The treated effluent water was diverted to the GW-11 holding pond for the remainder of the weekend. The source of the leak was repaired on Monday morning, March 4, 2013 and discharge of treated effluent to the Las Vegas Wash resumed around 7:50am on March 4, 2013. This correspondence serves as written notification of the leak, which is detailed below.

Per Section II.A.3.b. of the permit, the written report shall include the following information:

- i. Time and date of discharge  
Treated groundwater slowly leaked from the effluent pipe from approximately 10:00am to 4:30pm on Friday March 1, 2013.
- ii. Exact location and estimated amount of discharge  
The minor leak of treated groundwater from the effluent pipeline occurred along Pabco Road, approximately 2,500 feet north of the intersection between Galleria Drive and Pabco Road in Henderson, Nevada. The location of the leak is shown on the attached map. Discharge at the leak location is estimated at approximately 25 gallons.
- iii. Flow path and any bodies of water which the discharge reached  
The leaked water stayed localized around the leak area, wetting the soil beneath the broken valve. Las Vegas Piping (LVP) dug a small trench beneath the leak to capture the water. The discharge infiltrated into the ground surface and did not flow onto any roadway or into any body of water.

## iv. The specific cause of the discharge

The minor leak of treated groundwater was caused when a heavy equipment operator for LVP hit the cover box containing a combination valve and broke the valve. The valve box was previously marked, but the visual markings may have been diminished by construction activities in the area. From the main effluent pipeline, which was not impaired by the incident, a small pipe comes off that allows air to escape. During normal operation, a combination valve prevents water from leaking out of the air escape pipe. The combination valve was broken off by the LVP equipment, allowing water to slowly leak out.

## v. The preventive and/or corrective actions taken.


At approximately 4:30pm on Friday, March 1, 2013, Veolia diverted the treated effluent water to the GW-11 holding pond. On Monday, March 4, 2013, Veolia replaced the combination valve and cover box. The area was remarked with fresh paint and caution tape. Discharge of treated effluent water to the Las Vegas Wash resumed at approximately 7:50am on Monday, March 4, 2013. The ground beneath the leak location is now dry. Future preventative action will include inspection of valve boxes to ensure that flagging and other such markings remain visible.

Should you have any questions concerning this correspondence, please contact Kimberly Kuwabara at (510) 420-2525 or kkuwabara@environcorp.com. Thank you.

Sincerely,



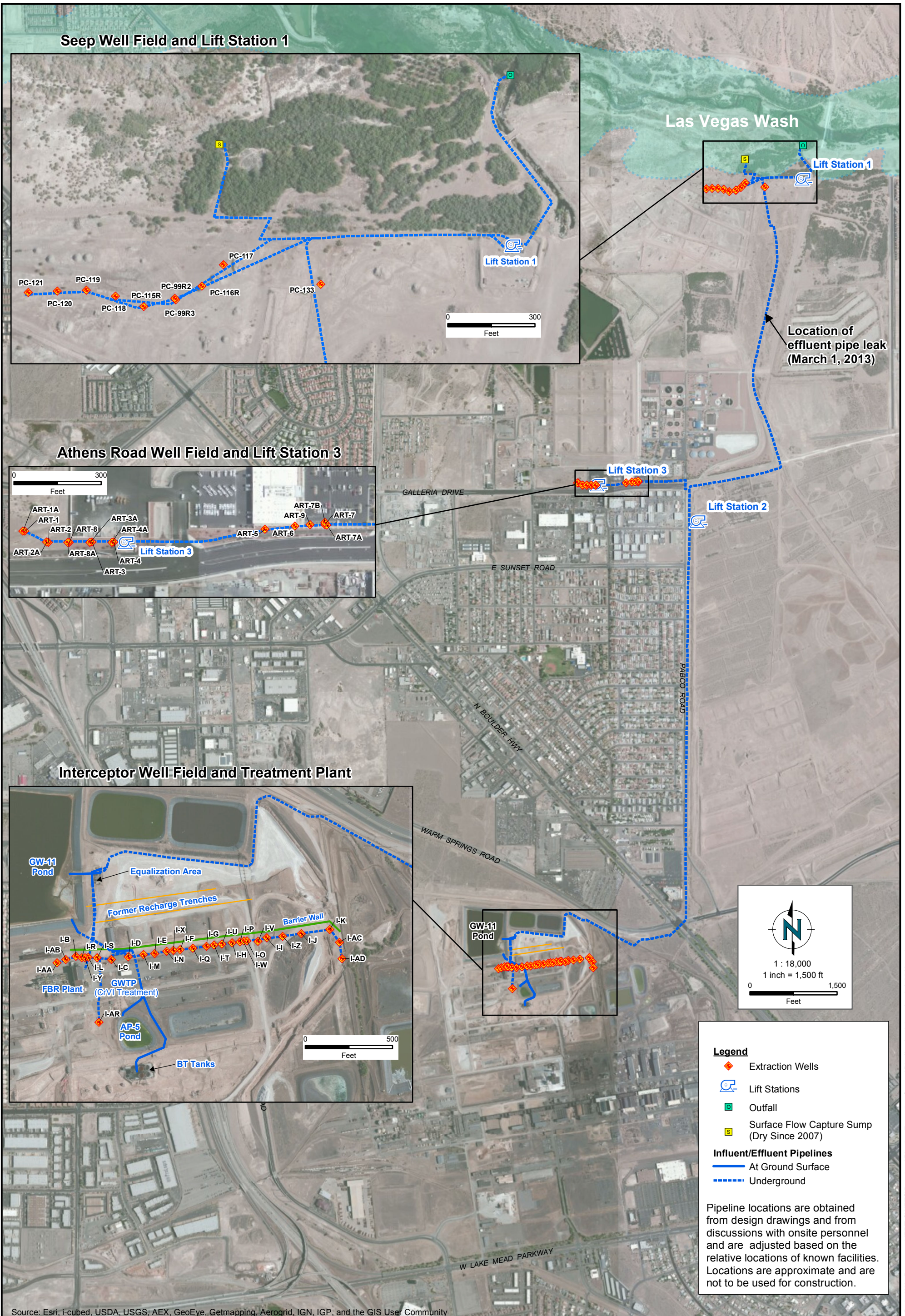
John M. Pekala, PG  
Senior Manager  
Nevada CEM 2347, exp. 9/20/2014



Kimberly Kuwabara, MS  
Manager

cc. Cliff Lawson, Bureau of Water Pollution Control, NDEP  
Joe Maez, Bureau of Water Pollution Control, NDEP  
Greg Lovato, Bureau of Corrective Actions, NDEP  
Shannon Harbour, Bureau of Corrective Actions, NDEP  
Jay Steinberg, Nevada Environmental Response Trust  
Andy Steinberg, Nevada Environmental Response Trust  
Tanya O'Neil, Esq., Foley and Lardner  
Sachin Chawla, Veolia Water North America  
Steve Kubacki, Veolia Water North America  
Allan DeLorme, ENVIRON International Corporation

Attachment



Source: Esri, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, GeoEye, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, and the GIS User Community

Path: H:\LePelomane\NERT\GWETS\Drawings\Pipeline Extraction System\Pipeline Leak Location 3-1-2013.mxd