



April 24, 2026

Mr. Jacob Van Susteren-Wedesky
Wastewater Engineer – Environmental Management/Water Quality
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
1027 W. St. Paul Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Subject: April 14 – 19, 2026, Post-Storm Report: Combined Sewer Overflow, Sanitary Sewer Overflow,
and Sewage Treatment Facility Overflow
WPDES Permit No. WI-0036820-04-0

Mr. Van Susteren-Wedesky:

This letter consolidates reporting for multiple permit-required notifications arising from the severe storms in the District's service area from April 14 – 18, 2026. The following information is provided in compliance with the conditions listed :

- Section 4.3.5 and 9.2.9 of MMSD's WPDES permit for combined sewer overflow discharges and combined sewer wet weather flow treatment,
- Section 9.3.1.3 of MMSD's WPDES permit for sanitary sewer overflows and sewage treatment facility overflows, and
- Wis. Admin. Code § NR 210.21 regarding sewage treatment facility overflows.

Heavy rainfall across the District's service area began on the evening of April 14, 2026. The most intense precipitation was recorded at District weather station WS1207 (9135 W. Florist Avenue, Milwaukee), which measured 3.02 inches between 6:25 PM and 9:45 PM that day. Saturated ground conditions significantly compounded the storm's impact, as cumulative April precipitation had already reached 4.03 inches, including 0.42 inches that fell earlier that same morning. Yet more rainfall arrived on April 15, depositing an additional 3.63 inches into the combined sewer service area as recorded at WS1211 (Jones Island Water Reclamation Facility), a 100-year storm level. Continued precipitation through April 18 brought the total rainfall over just five days at WS1211 to 7.31 inches. The volume of precipitation over this period exceeded the design capacity of the District's sewerage system, resulting in combined and sanitary sewer overflows across the service area.

Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District

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1. Combined Sewer Overflow Discharge and Combined Sewer Wet Weather Flow Treatment – WPDES Sections 4.3.5 and 9.2.9

Reason for Overflow

Repeated intense rainstorms on already saturated ground overwhelmed the conveyance system and inline storage system (ISS), forcing combined sewer overflow discharges. An initial round of combined and separate sewer overflow discharges due to heavy rainfall began at 8:24 PM on the evening of April 14. At 8:26 PM on April 15, the ISS was storing 346 million gallons with an inflow rate of 1,605 MGD. Given the status of the ISS, high tunnel inflow rates, and additional precipitation forecasted, the District closed the combined sewer gates to the ISS to reserve the remaining capacity for separate sewage and to prevent basement backups.

As rainfall continued between April 16 and April 18, an additional 1.95 inches was recorded at WS1211, extending the CSO discharges.

Estimated Duration of Combined Sewer Overflow Discharge

Discharges began on April 14 at approximately 8:24 PM. All combined sewage overflow discharges concluded by 2:00 PM on April 19 for a total duration of 113.6 hours.

Estimated Volume of Discharge

The current estimate of the combined sewer overflow discharge is 2.7 billion gallons. This amount includes eight combined sewer overflow discharges not tributary to the ISS (see attached MMSD Combined Sewer Discharge Points and Receiving Waters Table). Discharges were estimated using MMSD model CSOLOG Version 3.1. The District will continue its analysis of overflow volumes and report any significant volume revisions.

Combined Sewer Wet Weather Flow Treatment Process

To minimize the volume of combined sewer overflow discharges, the District implemented Combined Sewer Wet Weather Flow Treatment at the Jones Island Water Reclamation Facility on April 14 from 9:27 PM until 11:05 AM on April 19 (109.6 hours). The total volume treated through this process was 351 million gallons. The District operated the Combined Sewer Wet Weather Flow Treatment process in accordance with Section 3.2.2.1 of its WPDES permit.

2. Sanitary Sewer Overflows – WPDES Permit Section 9.3.1.3

The earliest sanitary sewer overflow began on April 14 at 8:50 PM. All sanitary sewer overflows concluded by 9:25 AM on April 16. The locations of the overflows are:

- MIS MH 50102 – West Grant Street and South 77th Street in West Allis
- SSO206 – 9523 North Broadmoor Road in Bayside
- SSO231 – North Range Line Road and Milwaukee River in River Hills
- SSO243 – South 43rd Street and West Lincoln Avenue in Milwaukee

- SSO247 – South 74th Street and West Oklahoma Avenue in Milwaukee
- SSO263 – North River Road and West Greentree Road in River Hills
- SSO264 – North Lake Drive and East Ravine Lane in Bayside

The estimated total volume of these sanitary overflows is 11.6 million gallons. See the attached notification summary forms for details on each overflow.

3. Sewage Treatment Facility Overflow – NR Section 210.21 and WPDES Section 9.3.1.3

At approximately 10:00 AM on Thursday, April 16, 2026, water was observed on the ground surface west of the high-level influent structure at Jones Island Water Reclamation Facility. Fecal coliform testing indicated the discharge was likely wastewater. Preliminary investigation indicated it escaped from the high-level siphon influent piping. Operations staff immediately placed a temporary pump where the water was pooling and pumped the discharge to plant influent. Subsequently, the District has excavated the suspected leak location, installed a temporary pump to contain and return the discharge to the treatment works, and is currently investigating the leak and repair options and developing a work plan for any diversion or outage potentially needed to isolate and fix the pipe. This work is ongoing; duration and volumes will be updated.

This temporary overflow was caused by factors beyond the District's reasonable control: the magnitude of influent resulting from the storms and a leak in concrete-encased wet weather flow pipe. The District conducts ongoing maintenance of its facilities to prevent such occurrences as much as possible. There is no potential risk of public exposure or contact with wastewater as the discharge is being routed through the treatment works.

4. DNR Compliance Maintenance Annual Report

Combined Sewer Overflows

For the DNR Compliance Maintenance Annual Report (CMAR), all combined sewer overflow discharges are assigned to the Jones Island Water Reclamation Facility, and the CSO outfall with the highest volume of discharge for this event was CSO 260 at S. 6th Street and W. Oklahoma Avenue.

Sanitary Sewer Overflows

For the DNR CMAR, all sanitary sewer overflows are assigned to the South Shore Water Reclamation Facility.

5. Steps Taken to Prevent Another Discharge

The District's 10-year investment plan calls for \$2.1 billion in improvements to regional water reclamation facilities and sewers to reduce the risk of overflows and basement backups. Part of that spending includes the Private Property Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Program throughout the service area. The plan also calls for additional wetland protections through MMSD's Greenseams[®] program which is currently at more than 5,400 acres of land that can capture and store more than 3 billion gallons of rain and melting snow. One inch of rain on MMSD's service area equals 7.1 billion gallons of water. The District and Veolia Water Milwaukee will continue to the maximum extent feasible to operate the conveyance system, ISS, Northwest

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Side Relief Sewer, and water reclamation facilities in a manner to prevent separate sewer overflows and to capture and treat combined sewer flow.

6. Attachments

The following supporting documents are attached:

- WDNR Form 3400-184 – Overflow Notification Summary Report
- Combined Sewer Discharge Points and Receiving Waters Table
- WDNR Form 3400-184 –Sanitary Sewer Overflow Notification Summary Reports
- WDNR Form 3400-184 – Sewage Treatment Facility Overflow Notification Summary Report
- Precipitation Map at District Rain Gauges: April 14-18, 2026
- District Rain Gauge Recurrence Intervals: April 14-18, 2026

If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact me at (414) 225-2178.

Sincerely,



Micki Klappa-Sullivan, P.E.
Director, Water Quality Protection
Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District

c: K. Lazarski, MMSD
D. Raines, MMSD
P. Keppler, Veolia Water Milwaukee