

SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS - FINAL EFFLUENT MONITORING (Min 415/97)

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 In accordance with Council's instructions, details of the Environment Agency's sampling records of final effluent discharge from the sewage treatment works within the District have continued to be monitored. The monitoring of these records is a discretionary function for the Council.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The records for Havengore Sewage Treatment Works show marginal failures of compliance with the consent conditions on three occasions between May and December 2000.

In addition this Works failed to comply with the consent conditions on two occasions in May and June 2001.

- 2.2 Rayleigh East Sewage Treatment Works failed to comply with the consent conditions on one occasion in June 2000. This was traced to over-use of one of the grass plots that provided the final stage of treatment at this Works.
- 2.3 Stonebridge Sewage Treatment Works failed to comply with the consent conditions on one occasion in October 2000. This was investigated and a problem identified with the primary settlement tank.
- 2.4 The discharges from all the other sewage treatment works monitored during this period were all compliant.

3 ACTION TAKEN

- 3.1 Although the compliance failures at Havengore Sewage Treatment Works were considered minimal initially, with no obvious cause, the most recent failures are the subject of an ongoing investigation by the Environment Agency. They have advised that formal discussions with Anglian Water plc are due to take place soon. Meanwhile Anglian Water plc has confirmed that, following a re-routing programme aimed at centralising sewage treatment in the area, Havengore Sewage Treatment Works has now been closed and the sewage flow redirected to Southend Sewage Treatment Works.

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- 3.2 As part of their investigation of compliance failure, the Environment Agency took formal samples of the final effluent from Rayleigh East Sewage Treatment Works, as a precursor to possible formal action. Remedial works were carried out by Anglian Water, following which the Environment Agency advised they are satisfied that the problem has been resolved.
- 3.3 Following an investigation by the Environment Agency, Anglian Water plc carried out remedial works at Stonebridge Sewage Treatment Works and the Environment Agency are satisfied that the problem is now resolved.

4 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Environment Agency has confirmed that the environmental implications relating to these incidents were considered to be minimal.

5 PARISH IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Havengore Sewage Treatment Works is situated in the Parish of Wakering.
- 8.2 Rayleigh East Sewage Treatment Works is situated in the Parish of Rayleigh.
- 8.3 Stonebridge Sewage Treatment Works is situated in the Parish of Barling.

9 RECOMMENDATION

That Members note the contents of this Report. (723) (HHH&CC)

Graham Woolhouse

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Background Papers:

Copies of the Environment Agency's results, from the Public Register, of the sewage treatment works final effluent analysis for 2000.

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