

## **Incident Briefing**

US Environmental Protection Agency  
EPA Region 8 Response Unit

### **Rosebud Lift Station**

Rosebud, SD

**Report as of April 20, 2017**

### **Map and Images**

<https://r8.ercloud.org/RosebudLiftStation>

<https://response.epa.gov/sites/12147/files/Rosebud PhotoLog.pdf>

### **Current Situation**

**Site Description:** On April 17, 2017, EPA Region 8's NPDES Program received a call from a concerned resident regarding the release of untreated wastewater from a lift station on the Rosebud Sioux Tribe reservation in Rosebud, South Dakota. The release was a result of an electrical pump failure at the lift station that caused untreated water to discharge directly into the nearby Rosebud Creek.

**Site Assessment:** Rosebud Creek flows through Rosebud, South Dakota and eventually contributes to the Missouri River via both the Little and Big White Rivers. The pump at the lift station needs to be repaired or replaced. Tribal representatives have arranged for the repair of the pump and this repair is expected to be completed in late May or early June. Any temporary solution to bypass the lift station and halt the release needs to account for 272' of head pressure.

### **Response Objectives**

1. Install an electrical pump system with diesel backup to bypass the failed lift station and move the wastewater to the next lift station and treatment plant.
2. Operate and maintain this pump system until the pump at the lift station is repaired.
3. Demobilize the temporary pump system.

### **Safety Message**

Tribal representatives issued a community radio message and notified nearby residents to avoid contact with Rosebud Creek. EPA notified the South Dakota Department of Natural Resources and both Agencies agreed that downstream impacts were minimal. EPA's routine air monitoring effort did not detect any abnormal conditions at the site.

## **Current Actions**

EPA's On Scene Coordinator and Response Team arrived onsite on April 19, 2017. On April 20, 2017, the dry well was emptied to expose the lift station's outlet pipe and the diesel pump was installed to bypass the lift station and halt the release.

## **Planned Actions**

The primary electrical pump is expected to arrive and be installed on April 24, 2017. The temporary diesel pump currently in use will remain on-site to provide backup capabilities. Tribal representatives and the operators of the Wastewater Treatment Facility will operate and maintain the backup pump system until the permanent pump is repaired and the lift station is again operational.

EPA will remotely coordinate with the Tribe and demobilize its equipment and resources once the lift station comes back online. EPA expects to distribute its next report after the lift station is repaired or as conditions warrant.

## **Organization**

EPA is coordinating response activities with representatives from the Tribe.

## **Resources**

Personnel:

- 1 EPA OSC
- 1 ERRS
- 1 START
- Contracted support services (pump installation)
- Tribal Operations and Maintenance Technicians

Equipment:

- Primary electrical pump
- Backup diesel pump
- Bypass plumbing

**For further information, visit [response.epa.gov/RosebudLiftStation](https://response.epa.gov/RosebudLiftStation).**