

Sewage Lift Station #9 – Incident Report September 8, 2025

On Monday, September 8th, 2025 at 1:45pm during a routine inspection, Public Works personnel identified that our Sanitary Lift Station, #9 was significantly overfull. Recognizing the potential for operational disruption, the team promptly opened the drywell to determine why the pumps were not functioning. Upon inspection, it was discovered that the drywell was completely filled with sewage.

A thorough investigation revealed that the station had lost electrical power. Public Works staff traced the issue to the fused switches located on the power pole to the north of the station and determined that one of the fuses had tripped.

Eric Fritz, Utility Supervisor immediately contacted ComEd at 2:14 PM on September 8th, 2025, to report the outage. A ComEd crew member was promptly dispatched to restore power. In the interim, to ensure the continuity of operations and prevent any environmental or public health issues, a rental pump was mobilized to manage the flow at the station. This rental pump carries a cost of \$5,681.72 per month, but was critical in maintaining safe operation while the electrical issues were being addressed.

On Tuesday, September 9th, at approximately 8:00 AM, ComEd returned to clear overgrown trees surrounding the power pole and replace the two fused switches that were found to be faulty. Thanks to the swift coordination between Public Works and ComEd, power was successfully restored. However, normal operations at Lift Station #9 have not yet resumed due to extensive damage caused by the outage.

Both pumps required removal and service to verify proper operation, totaling **\$18,997.32** (see attached). Additionally, all electrical components within the station were damaged after being submerged, and significant time was required to dry out the drywell. A proposal totaling **\$109,639.00** (see attached) was provided to relocate all controls above ground into a new control cabinet and replace the damaged electrical components with new.

The incident at Lift Station #9 resulted from a power failure traced to faulty fused switches on the nearby ComEd power pole. Despite the prompt response and coordination between Public Works and ComEd to restore power, the outage caused extensive damage to the station's pumps and electrical components. Given that the root cause of this event was determined to be a failure in ComEd's fused switches, the Village respectfully requests ComEd's consideration and support in covering or reimbursement of these expenses associated with restoring normal operations at Lift Station #9. The Village values its partnership with ComEd and appreciates any assistance or collaboration in resolving this matter.

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