



**REGION 5**  
CHICAGO, IL 60604

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Mr. Charles Powell III, Mayor  
City of East St. Louis  
301 River Park Drive  
East St. Louis, IL 62201  
mayorsreceptionist@cesl.us

Subject: May 20-21, 2024, SSO Inspection Trip Report for the City of East St. Louis

Dear Mayor Powell:

Enclosed, please find a copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Inspection Trip Report that describes and documents the observations made by EPA inspectors in the City of East St. Louis on May 20-21, 2024. The purpose of the reconnaissance inspection was to observe portions of the city's sanitary sewer collection system.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, or the inspection trip report, please contact Dean Maraldo at (312) 353-2098 or at maraldo.dean@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

**Ryan Bahr**

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Ryan J. Bahr  
Supervisor, Section 2 Water Enforcement and Compliance  
Assurance Branch

Enclosure - NPDES SSO Inspection Trip Report

cc: Todd Bennett, Illinois EPA [Todd.Bennett@Illinois.gov]  
Joe Stitely, Illinois EPA [Joe.Stitely@Illinois.gov]  
Robert Betts, City of East St. Louis [rbetts@cesl.us]  
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Joan Rogers, U.S. EPA [rogers.joan@epa.gov]



On May 20-21, 2024, EPA inspectors Dean Maraldo and Eric Small conducted a Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) reconnaissance inspection in the City of East St. Louis (“CESL”) and observed manholes and pump stations along CESL’s Dayline Track sewer that runs along Ridge St. and collects sewage from the City of Cahokia Heights sanitary sewer collection system. The inspection began at 1:50 P.M. on May 20, 2024, and concluded at 9:15 A.M. on May 21, 2024. Prior to the inspection, the last measurable rainfall recorded at the St. Louis Downtown Airport (KCPS) in St. Clair County occurred on May 16 (0.30”).

This trip report summarizes the inspection observations. All photographs referenced below were taken by Inspector Dean Maraldo.

Location #1: 82<sup>nd</sup> St and Ridge Ave.

On May 20, Inspectors Dean Maraldo and Eric Small met Mathew Missey and other CESL and City of Cahokia Heights representatives at the last manhole in the Cahokia Heights collection system before entering the Dayline Track sewer. The Cahokia Heights sewer staff removed the manhole cover and we observed high flow in the manhole indicating surcharged conditions (see Photo 1 below). After observing this manhole, Inspectors Dean Maraldo and Eric Small met with CESL representatives to observe a manhole along the Dayline Track sewer.



Photo 1: CCHS0412

Description: Last manhole in the Cahokia Heights collection system before entering the City of East St. Louis Dayline Track sewer that runs along Ridge St. in this portion of the city. We observed high flow in the manhole indicating surcharged conditions.

Location: 82nd St and Ridge Ave.

Date/Time: May 20, 2024/2:24 P.M.

Location #2: CESL Manhole #42 on Dayline Track Sewer.

Inspectors Dean Maraldo and Eric Small joined Mathew Missey and other CESL representatives at manhole #42 on the Dayline Track sewer (see Photo 2, below). EPA observed a high level of sewage in the manhole, indicating surcharged conditions downstream of the manhole. Mat Missey said there is an 8" sewer line that brings sewage from the Cahokia Heights sewer system into this manhole, then a 12" sewer line out of this manhole. EPA inspectors observed that the 12" outlet sewer line was nearly filled with sewage flow. We concluded the inspection at this point and agreed to continue the inspection and meet at CESL's 63<sup>rd</sup> St. Pump Station at 8:30 A.M. the next day (May 21).



Photo 2: CCHS0413

Description: View inside CESL Manhole #42 on the Dayline Track Sewer.

Location: CESL Manhole #42 on the Dayline Track sewer

Date/Time: May 20, 2024/2:31 P.M.

Location #3: CESL's 63<sup>rd</sup> St Pump Station.

Inspectors Dean Maraldo and Eric Small arrived at CESL's 63<sup>rd</sup> St. Pump Station at 8:30 A.M. on May 21, 2024. We met Mathew Missey and other CESL utility workers. The 63<sup>rd</sup> St. Pump Station represents the end of CESL's Dayline Track sewer. According to Mat Missey, the pump station normally operates a triplex system, with two pumps running and one pump serving as a backup. Due to pump failures, the pump station has been operating with one pump since October 2023. Two new pumps have been ordered. CESL applied for a grant (\$1.8 million) in pump station upgrades, including replacement of pumps. At the time of inspection, the pump station was running on one station pump and one portable 8" bypass pump (see Photos 3-5 below). Mathew Missey said he expected two portable bypass pumps to be in operation, including the 8" bypass pump and an additional 6" bypass pump. However, upon arrival on the morning of the inspection, he noticed only the 8" portable bypass pump was on site and operating. He later learned that the city removed the 6" portable bypass pump. After touring the pump station, we concluded the inspection at 9:15 A.M. on May 21, 2024.



Photo 3: CCHS0424

Description: Portable 8" bypass pump hose from the Dayline Track sewer to CESL sewer main.

Location: 63<sup>rd</sup> St. Pump Station

Date/Time: May 21, 2024/8:55 A.M.



Photo 4: CCHS0425

Description: Portable 8" bypass pump.

Location: 63<sup>rd</sup> St. Pump Station

Date/Time: May 21, 2024/8:55 A.M.



Photo 5: CCHS0426

Description: Portable 8" bypass pump and 63<sup>rd</sup> St. Pump Station building.

Location: 63<sup>rd</sup> St. Pump Station

Date/Time: May 21, 2024/8:55 A.M.