

*Atlantic Highlands – Highlands  
Regional Sewerage Authority*

PO Box 72 Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey 07716

November 4, 2009

David G. Palamara  
Administrator  
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**NOTICE TO NEIGHBORS**

On Tuesday morning and again on Wednesday night, there were breaks in the underground sewage force main on Route 36, by the driveway entrance to Conifer Village (just downhill from CVS & Stewarts). This line handles all of the sanitary sewerage from Highlands Borough of and part of Middletown Township. It is an 8" concrete lined, ductile iron pipe installed in 1986 with a useful life of at least 50 years. The NJDEP, NJDOT, Monmouth County Health Department and other agencies have been notified and most have had representatives on site several times Tuesday; contact with all continues.

Health safety risks necessitate immediate action and our Emergency Plan requires the use of tanker trucks to transport the sewage to a sewer line that has the capacity and accessibility to safely handle the sewer load<sup>1</sup>. The underground sewer line on Sears Avenue was found to be the nearest line that can safely meet these requirements.

While understanding that having large trucks on a residential street is an intrusion for residents, it is necessary during this emergency. We have directed the trucks to turn off emergency lighting while in the residential areas, have obtained police traffic control officers at both ends of the street for safety and will welcome any suggestions that could minimize the disruption for residents.

We are working as quickly as possible to repair the force main. We current anticipate having the line back in operation by Friday night but that depends on what damage is uncovered during the excavation and repair. Should the repair require additional days, we will review possible options to reduce or eliminate the impact on Sears Avenue.

While the Authority is obviously very busy during this emergency we also want to be responsive to your concerns. Should you have any immediate questions please feel free to call me at 732-977-2100.

David G. Palamara  
Authority Administrator

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<sup>1</sup> These Emergency Plans were created years ago with input from all involved sewerage authorities, police, municipal departments plus providers of emergency equipment and services; they are updated periodically.