



ENVIROWORX
OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

August 24, 2020

Mr. Stephen Wurtz
Georgia Environmental Protection Division
400 Commerce Center Dr.
Brunswick, Ga. 31523

Dear Mr. Wurtz,

This letter is to formalize a narrative regarding the reported pressure issue in the Timberlake Subdivision located off Horse Pen Rd. in unincorporated Effingham County. On Sunday, August 16, 2020, the Savannah Industrial and Domestic Surface Water Facility experienced an issue with one of their booster pumps servicing Effingham County. This issue led to a reduced pressure within the county, but was within acceptable limits and state requirements for fire flow (>20 PSI). The lowest reported pressure at the largest user, Effingham Power was 28 PSI as it was reported to our field supervisor Adam Parker. During this event, residents of the Timber lake Subdivision experienced a significant reduction in pressure at their homes and upon further investigation, it was found that every house was equipped with a pressure reducing valve on the customer's side of the meter which would further reduce the pressure by 10-12 PSI and reduce flow into the house by 75%. In an effort to prove this issue, our team removed one PRV at 222 Timberlake Dr and noted a flow increase to the residence by almost 3 times.

After testing pressure at the fire hydrant at the beginning of the neighborhood as well as the pressure at the water meter, we proved to the State EPD that these PRV installations negatively impact pressure within these houses at all times and even more so when there is a drop in system pressure.

Our recourse is to help and advise Effingham County on educating their residents in Timberlake and other subdivisions where we have learned that these PRVs are installed. Currently, we are aware of two other subdivisions, Patriots Point and Summer Station, which have the same type of PRVs installed and could experience similar pressure problems unrelated to the system as a whole.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Charles Heino, MPA

Director of Municipal Operations



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