

From:

Sent:

To:

Subject:

Attachments:

Importance:

E&Y VCC Communications <noreply@everbridge.net>

27 January 2021 06:08

Arun Rohilla

VCC Alert - New South Wales, Australia Alert: COVID-19 Traces Found at Seven Queensland Wastewater Sites, Raising Prospect of Undetected Spread

VCC - COVID-19 Traces Found at Seven Queensland.jpg

High



Sydney, Australia: COVID-19 Traces Found at Seven Queensland Wastewater Sites, Raising Prospect of Undetected Spread

4 Asset(s) Potentially Affected by this Other Security event.

Distance from alert to nearest asset: 1.0 km

On Tuesday, Australian media sources reported that traces of COVID-19 have been found at seven wastewater treatment facilities in Sydney. The affected sites were located in Cairns South, Cairns Marlin Coast, Nambour, Maroochydore, Pulgul at Hervey Bay, Condon at Townsville, and Yeppoon. In light of the findings, NSW Health has advised residents in the areas to be tested for COVID-19 and to remain vigilant for unusual symptoms. The development comes as the state recorded its ninth consecutive day without a locally acquired case of the coronavirus. To date, Australia has recorded 28,780 positive COVID-19 cases, along with 909 deaths attributed to the virus.

Assessment: The development raises the prospect of undetected community spread of COVID-19 in Sydney and its environs despite NSW having purportedly gone nine consecutive days without a locally transmitted case. Wastewater-based epidemiology (WBE) testing has been used to monitor the prevalence of infections within a local population, and Tuesday s detections suggest that some members of the affected communities have contracted COVID-19. It has been reported that local health officials have noted a marked decrease in testing rates of late, potentially explaining why the suspected infections have gone undetected and opening the door to increased exposure and transmission of the coronavirus. Those in Sydney and its suburbs should monitor for suspicious symptoms, notably runny nose, sore throat, cough, fever, or difficulty breathing, and seek medical care immediately if one believes they may have contracted COVID-19.

For more information, login to Visual Command Center: <https://vcc.everbridge.net> or contact intelligence@gds.ey.com

Severity:	Severe
Alert Location:	Sydney, Australia
Alert State:	
Alert Country:	New South Wales
	Australia
Event Time:	01-27-2021 12:36:44 TO 01-28-2021 12:36:44
Last Updated:	01-27-2021 12:36:57
Source:	RIMC COVID-19