



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY

Public Health Department

Jeff Hamm
Health Agency Director

Penny Borenstein, M.D., M.P.H.
Health Officer



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: January 17, 2017

TO: LOCAL NEWS MEDIA

ISSUED BY: Aaron LaBarre, San Luis Obispo County Public Health (SLOPH)
Department, (805) 781-5595

**FOR MORE
INFORMATION**

CONTACT: Bud Nance, Supervisor, Wastewater Division, City of San Luis Obispo
805-781-7033

Background: Pursuant to California Water Code Section 13271 the local health officer and the director of environmental health shall immediately notify the public of a discharge of a hazardous substance or sewage to the waters of the state if it is necessary to safeguard public health and safety.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following report was received from the following person or entity on the date set forth below:

REPORTING PERSON OR ENTITY NAME: San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department, Environmental Health Services

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 1489, 2156 Sierra Way, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

PHONE: (805) 781-5544 Regular Business Hours

SUBSTANCE OF REPORT:

1. At 1:04 PM on January 22, 2017, SLOPH was notified by the City of San Luis Obispo, approximately 6,200 gallons of sewage was released from a sewer line in the 500 block of Mitchell Drive in San Luis Obispo.
2. The release was caused by a blockage in the sewer line.

- 3. The blockage was cleared and release stopped.**
- 4. The spill area was cleaned.**
- 5. Spilled sewage entered the storm drain, which ultimately flows to San Luis Creek.**

The Health Officer of San Luis Obispo County has made the following determinations:

- The reporting person or entity is considered to be reliable and the Health Officer has been unable to make an independent investigation.
- After investigation, the Health Officer draws the following conclusions with respect to the report: The information from the City of San Luis Obispo, has been diligently reported. The Public Health Department advises the public to avoid contact with creek and ocean water during and after storm events due to high levels of disease causing organisms such as bacteria, viruses and protozoans originating from the watershed and urban areas. Refer to attached media release dated 1-5-17.

Likelihood that the discharge would be injurious to public health or safety:

- Likely:
- Unlikely: Due to volume of storm water from heavy rain storms today.
- No determination possible at this time because:

Aaron LaBarre for Dr. Penny Borenstein, COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER 1-22-17