SMARTCOVER

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REAL TIME FLOW MONITORING TECHNOLOGY SIMPLIFIES CSO REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

BACKGROUND

Over the past four centuries, Albany, NY has grown from a small Dutch settlement into New York State's Capital City in the heart of burgeoning Tech Valley.

The stormwater infrastructure in Albany takes water as quickly as possible away from an area, using catch basins, pipe systems and the natural grade of the land. This leads to concentrated flows and possible flooding at lower elevations and main line pipes.

During the summer of 2018, the City of Albany experienced several extreme rain events that caused flooding and sewer backups. The City is committed to system wide infrastructure improvements to address these long term problems.

THE CHALLENGE

In accordance with the 2013 Sewage Pollution Right to Know Act (SPRTK), Albany is required to report events of untreated and partially treated sewage discharges within two hours to the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and within four hours to the public and adjoining municipalities.

Items to be reported include:

- Date/Time of Discharge
- Location of Discharge
- Duration of Discharge
- Volume of Discharge
- Treated State of Discharge
- Reason(s) for Discharge
- Description of Corrective Action(s)

THE SOLUTION

The City of Albany is addressing SPRTK reporting mandates by deploying SmartCover remote real-time monitoring systems within its sewer Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) program.

After initial deployment of two test and significant success at key combined sewer overflow (CSO) locations, Albany expanded its SmartCover network to 15 sites, with more deployments planned.

THE RESULTS

Prior to using SmartCover, the department had been trying predictive modeling to estimate spill activity, but that approach lacked the real-time, quantifiable data necessary to fully comply with SPRTK.

With the deployment of SmartCover, Albany is able to determine exactly when the overflow started as well as providing an accurate calculation of the amount of overflow. This data is then used for timely adherence to the reporting deadlines.

With SmartCover we can determine exactly when overflows started and stopped along with an accurate calculation of the amount of overflow.

-- William Simcoe, Deputy Commissioner for Water

DIGITAL DATA SUPPORTS PUBLIC NOTIFICATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

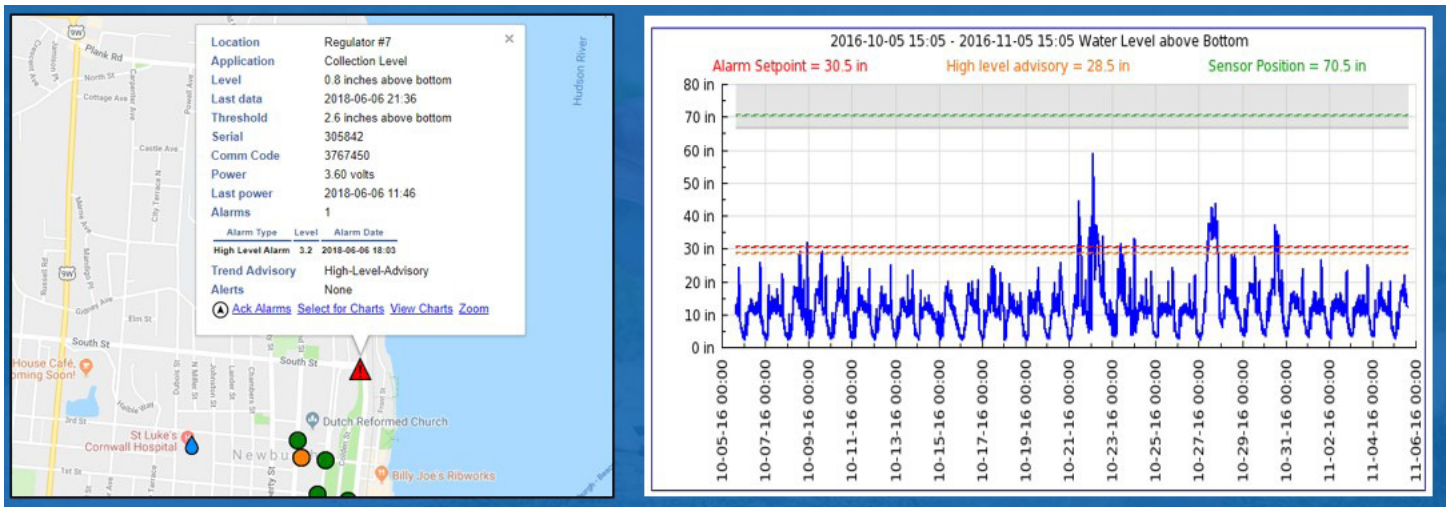
SUMMARY:

In addition to meeting the specific regulatory requirements for spill reporting, the widening deployment of SmartCover sites is also helping build a data-driven process for assessing overall sewer system capacity.

This is particularly informative for planning purposes, such as evaluating the system impacts of proposed new developments as part of the building and permitting process.

Deploying SmartCover has also improved the ability of the City of Albany to coordinate operational information with Albany County, which operates the sewer intercept lines and treatment plants.

SmartCover is helping Albany meet their mission statement goal to "deliver a reliable, high-quality supply of water to customers, to collect and safely convey wastewater to treatment facilities and comply with all regulatory requirements."



SmartCover is key to collecting accurate data for meeting CSO reporting requirements

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