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Media Advisory

HRM, DOE Monitoring Sandy Lake

(Friday, November 23/2001)-- HRM crews and the Nova Scotia Department of the Environment are closely monitoring Sandy Lake in Bedford, following a break in the sewer force main on Giles Road last night.

The break was reported at approximately 9 p.m. Thursday. A split in the line occurred about 400 yards from the eastern entrance of Giles Drive. HRM crews immediately moved to contain the effluent release, shutting down the line and re-routing all flows to another system.

Area residents who draw water directly from the lake were informed of the break immediately and advised not to use the water. Where summer residents were not available, notices were left.

John Sheppard, Manager of HRM Environmental Services, said there was no indication of leaching into the lake, as of 7:30 this morning.

Mr. Sheppard said that the break appears to have been contained and has not caused any environmental damage. HRM will be working with DOE to closely monitor the situation.

Samples of lake water have been taken and Mr. Sheppard has been in contact with the Provincial Medical Officer of Health.

The Chair of the Sandy Lake Residents Association was advised of the break and further communication/updates with the Association and area residents will occur as new information becomes available.

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