

Bethal Sewerage Treatment Works – Case Study 2003

The sludge in the primary chamber became too thick and burnt out the stirrer motor, resulting in the system not functioning correctly. The final effluent being discharged into the river contaminated the water and many livestock had died. The effluent contained a high volume of fats from the dairy and chocolate factory.



A. Congested primary chamber



B. Dosing the primary chamber



C. 3 days after dosing commenced



D. 2 weeks into dosing and the main solids have liquefied



E. Effluent liquid, just fat balls still floating on the surface



F. New stirrer installed once the effluent was thin enough