



Learn How Proactive CSO Monitoring Technologies Can Streamline Compliance with New Public Reporting Mandates

Combined sewer system operators have long struggled with rainfall induced conditions that can result in Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs). These challenges have become even more difficult as many states and regulatory authorities are enacting new laws that tighten the timeframes for reporting CSOs and also impose new public notification requirements.

CSO Regulatory Overview

Regulation and reporting requirements for CSOs originated with the Clean Water Act of 1972, which created the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) within the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Clean Water Act prohibits anybody from discharging "pollutants" through a "point source" into a "water of the United States" unless they have an NPDES permit. In practice, the NPDES delegates much of the regulatory activities to individual states by authorizing state agencies to perform permitting, administrative and enforcement aspects of the program.



Over the decades, most states have focused on developing regulations that require periodic reporting by permit holders, such as requiring combined sewer operators to collect data on CSOs and provide monthly reports to the appropriate state agencies.

However, in recent years there has been a regulatory movement toward both faster reporting and providing information about CSO spills directly to the public. This shift is driven by public safety concerns and the public's "right to know" when an overflow is impacting a waterway that makes swimming or fishing unsafe.

These regulatory changes have two major impacts on system operators:

- 1) **Increased pressure to collect and analyze CSO data faster**
- 2) **Creation of new automated public-facing websites and emails to provide rapid notifications**

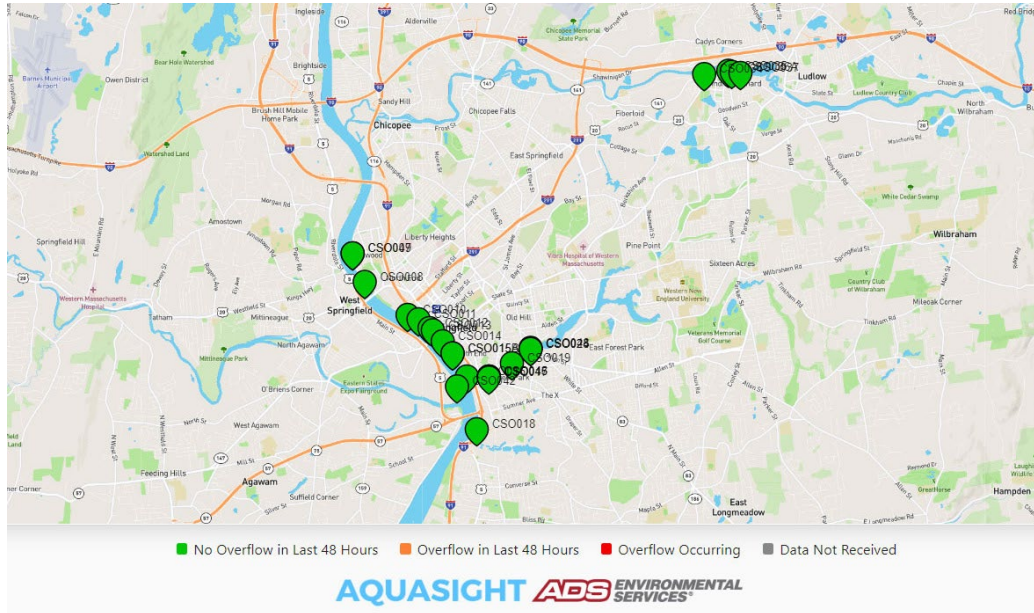
How a Combination of Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Technologies Offers Reporting Relief

The good news for most system operators is that the advanced monitoring and analysis technologies already exist, with many districts having invested to some degree in implementing them. The next step

is to optimize these processes and link them with automated public notification systems. For example, sewer systems using ADS TRITON+® flow meter in combination with the ADS PRISM™ cloud software, CSO events are captured and reported.

Public notification is enabled through ADS partner, Aquasight. Their software drives automated, public-facing notifications using pre-set parameters where the monitoring data is pushed out directly to websites and email subscriber lists.

This screenshot shows a public notification website in Springfield, MA using the ADS and Aquasight collaboration solution. [Click here to access live data on the site.](#)



In addition, by creating the compliant public reporting solution on top of proven ADS monitoring and management services, system operators have the advantage of built-in flexibility and scalability for expanding the number and location of monitoring sites.

As more states and jurisdictions move toward enacting requirements for rapid public reporting of CSOs (and SSOs), the comprehensive end-to-end ADS monitoring, and public reporting solution is poised to help them comply quickly and at a relatively low cost. This capability will also be of critical importance if the EPA steps in at some point with similar federal level mandates for rapid public notifications.

Join Us at WEFTEC Booth #4847 to have a cup of coffee and chat with an ADS expert.
If you want an appointment, [click here](#). If you're unsure of your schedule, please stop by.