City of Chattanooga

Mayor Tim Kelly

February 28, 2026

J.C. Goodwin
Water Enforcement Branch
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division
US EPA-Region 4
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Re: ***United States of America et. al. v. City of Chattanooga, No. 1:12-cv-0024***
Annual Report No. 13 – January 2025 to December 2025

Dear Mr. Goodwin:

On behalf of the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee ("City"), and in accordance with the Consent Decree entered by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee (Southern Division), on April 24, 2013, in the case styled the United States of America et. al. v. City of Chattanooga, No. 1:12-cv-0024 ("Consent Decree"), we are submitting to both the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation ("TDEC") the thirteenth annual report required pursuant to paragraph 40 of the Consent Decree. This report is also being submitted in accordance with the letter from Denise Diaz, dated September 16, 2013, establishing the dates for reporting under the Consent Decree.

> *I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering such information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.*

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our submittal.

Sincerely,

Signed by:
Mark Heinzer
CCBFBA7053F44F5...

Mark Heinzer, P.E.
Administrator, Wastewater Department

Enclosure

cc: Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section Environment and Natural Resources Division, US DOJ
Peter Krzywicki, Esq., Trial Attorney, DOJ
Maryjo Bragan, Branch Chief, Water Enforcement Branch, Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, US EPA Region 4
Paul Schwartz, Esq., Associate Regional Counsel, US EPA-Region 4
Dane Wilson, Esq., Attorney Advisor, US EPA-OECA
Jessica Murphy, Manager, Compliance and Enforcement Unit, Division of Water Resources, TDEC
Angela Oberschmidt, Program Coordinator, Division of Water Resources Chattanooga Field Office, TDEC
Patrick Parker, Esq., Senior Counsel, TDEC
Sohnia Hong, Esq., Attorney, Tennessee Attorney General's Office
Wilson Buntin, Esq., Senior Assistant Attorney General, Tennessee Attorney General's Office
Mark Heinzer, P.E., Administrator - Wastewater Department, City of Chattanooga
Xavier Pedeux, P.E., Jacobs Engineering
Adam Sowatzka, Partner, McGuireWoods, LLP

Annual Report No. 13

January 1 - December 31, 2025

Prepared for

Environmental Protection Agency and Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

City of Chattanooga
Wastewater Department
Consent Decree Program
Case No. 1:12-cv-00245

Prepared by

City of Chattanooga
Wastewater Department

Submitted by

Jacobs

Jacobs Engineering Group Inc.
Consent Decree Program Manager

Chattanooga, Tennessee
February 28, 2026

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AOP	Additional Operational Plan
BOD	Biochemical Oxygen Demand
CAP	Capacity Assurance Program
CD	Consent Decree
CM	Corrective Maintenance
CMOM	Capacity, Management, Operations, and Maintenance
CSOTF	Combined Sewer Overflow Treatment Facility
DO	Dissolved Oxygen
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FOG	Fats, Oils, and Grease
FSE	Food Service Establishment
IJA	Inter-Jurisdictional Agreement
ISS	Interceptor Sewer System
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
MBWWTP	Moccasin Bend Wastewater Treatment Plant
MBEC	Moccasin Bend Environmental Campus
MG	Million Gallons
MH	Manhole
N/A	Not Applicable
No.	Number
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
PCCMP	Post Construction Compliance Monitoring Program
PM	Preventive Maintenance
PS	Pump Station
SORP	Sewer Overflow Response Protocol
SSO	Sanitary Sewer Overflow
TDEC	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
WQS	Water Quality Standards

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

On April 24, 2013, the City of Chattanooga ("City") entered into a Consent Decree with the United States and the State of Tennessee, in the case styled *United States of America et. al. v. City of Chattanooga, No. 1:12-cv-00245* ("CD"). Pursuant to Section IX of the CD, the City is required to submit annual reports on a yearly basis to the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation ("TDEC"). Chattanooga has prepared this report to satisfy the reporting requirements found in Paragraph 40 of the CD, which covers the period from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 ("Reporting Period"). This report is also being submitted in accordance with the letter from Denise Diaz, dated September 16, 2013, establishing the dates for the reporting under the CD.

1.2 Requirements

As detailed in Section IX of the CD, the City is required to report a summary of Capacity, Management, Operations and Management ("CMOM") Program as implemented or modified pursuant to the CD, including a comparison of actual performance with any performance measures that have been established. Additionally, the 1st five annual reports included a trends analysis of the number, volume, duration, and cause of Chattanooga's Sanitary Sewer Overflow ("SSO") events for a 24-month rolling period, updated to reflect the SSO events that occurred during the previous 12-month period. Since the 6th annual report, this trends analysis covers SSO events spanning a 5-year rolling period.

2.0 CMOM Programs

The City has completed the development of its CMOM program pursuant to Paragraph 20 of the CD. As of the end of the last Reporting Period, all nine (9) of the nine CMOM programs have been developed by Chattanooga, submitted to TDEC and EPA, and approved. Table 2-1 on the following page summarizes the status of the CMOM Programs, including updates and key performance indicators ("KPIs") related to implementation of those that have received EPA approval.

Table 2-1
CMOM Program Summary

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025						
CMOM Program	**CMOM Program Status**	**CD Reference**	**CMOM Program KPI**	**CMOM KPI Purpose**	**Established Performance Measure**	**Actual Measured Performance**
Sewer Overflow Response Protocol ("SORP")	Approved by EPA and TDEC 5/29/2014	Section VI, Paragraph 20(a)(ii)	Maintain records of all sanitary sewer overflow ("SSO") responses and response times	Reduce response times to respond to SSOs to reduce SSO impacts	Reduce SSO response time to within one hour after notification of event	Average SSO response time for 2025 was ~23.3 minutes
Sewer Overflow Response Protocol ("SORP")	Approved by EPA and TDEC 5/29/2014	Section VI, Paragraph 20(a)(ii)	Provide notice to TDEC as required by National Pollutant Discharge Elimination ("NPDES") Permit within 24 hours of being made aware of an SSO event	Improve timeliness of SSO reporting to TDEC	Notify TDEC of SSO events within 24 hours after being made aware of event	TDEC was notified within 24-hours of being made aware for all SSOs in 2025, except for two (2) events.
Gravity Line Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 12/3/2014 Updated and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(d)	Annual Chemical Root Control Footage	Reduce the impacts of roots on system performance	Treat 50,000 feet/year	50,193 feet were treated in 2025
Gravity Line Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 12/3/2014 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(d)	Footage of Pipeline Hydraulically Cleaned During the Calendar Year	Improve the gravity system performance	Clean 1,000,000 feet/year	Cleaned 1,231,551 feet in 2025

Table 2-1
CMOM Program Summary

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025						
CMOM Program	**CMOM Program Status**	**CD Reference**	**CMOM Program KPI**	**CMOM KPI Purpose**	**Established Performance Measure**	**Actual Measured Performance**
Gravity Line Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 12/3/2014 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(d)	Number of MACP Level 1 Manhole Inspections During the Calendar Year	Complete Level 1 inspections to improve system performance	1,000/year until 2017 and then 2,000/year	2,679 Level 1 inspections completed in 2025
Gravity Line Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 12/3/2014 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(d)	Number of MACP Level 2 Manhole Inspections During the Calendar Year	Complete Level 2 inspections to improve system performance	900/year until 2017 and then 500/year	2,025 Level 2 inspections completed in 2025
Gravity Line Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 12/3/2014 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(d)	The Number of SSOs caused by the build-up of debris, sediment, roots, and grease in the collection system	Measure effectiveness of gravity maintenance program	A reduction in maintenance-related SSOs	There were 20 SSOs associated with blockages in 2025 as compared to 29 in 2024 (reduced by 9)

Table 2-1
CMOM Program Summary

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025						
CMOM Program	**CMOM Program Status**	**CD Reference**	**CMOM Program KPI**	**CMOM KPI Purpose**	**Established Performance Measure**	**Actual Measured Performance**
Gravity Line Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 12/3/2014 Revised and Revised by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(d)	Footage of pipelines and frequency that preventive maintenance hydraulic cleaning is performed	Complete gravity line maintenance to improve system performance	Preventive Hydraulic Line Cleaning Frequency Maximum ft. 2 months – 25,000 ft. 4 months – 50,000 ft. 6 months – 50,000 ft. 8 months – 50,000 ft. 12 months- 225,000 ft. 18 months- 250,000 ft. 36 months- 350,000 ft.	Preventive Hydraulic Line Cleaning Frequency Actual ft. 2 months- 0 ft. 4 months- 0 ft. 6 months- 47,614 ft. 8 months- 54,506 ft. 12 months- 1,315,969 ft. 18 months- 1,664,029 ft. 36 months- 2,780,717 ft.
Fats, Oils, and Grease (“FOG”) Management Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 7/21/2015	Section VI, Paragraph 20(c)	Number of FOG-related SSOs	Measure FOG program effectiveness	Yearly Reduction in FOG-related SSOs	There was 1 SSOs associated with grease blockages as compared to 4 in 2024 (reduced by 3)
Fats, Oils, and Grease (“FOG”) Management Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 7/21/2015	Section VI, Paragraph 20(c)	Number of annual inspections vs the total number of Food Service Establishments (“FSEs”)	Measure FOG Program Workload	100%	100%

Table 2-1
CMOM Program Summary

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025						
CMOM Program	**CMOM Program Status**	**CD Reference**	**CMOM Program KPI**	**CMOM KPI Purpose**	**Established Performance Measure**	**Actual Measured Performance**
Fats, Oils, and Grease ("FOG") Management Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 7/21/2015	Section VI, Paragraph 20(c)	Number of annual Noncompliance Notifications vs the total inspections	Evaluate the FOG Program effectiveness	Below 15%	4.9%
Fats, Oils, and Grease ("FOG") Management Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 7/21/2015	Section VI, Paragraph 20(c)	FOG Hot Spots	Reduce the number of FOG hot spot areas	Reduce linear footage by 10%	3.9% reduction[1]
Fats, Oils, and Grease ("FOG") Management Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 7/21/2015	Section VI, Paragraph 20(c)	Number of FSEs Added Annually	Measure FOG program effectiveness	Have every existing FSE included in Program so only new ones are added	77 FSEs were added during the reporting period
Fats, Oils, and Grease ("FOG") Management Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 7/21/2015	Section VI, Paragraph 20(c)	Annual FOG Management Program Update Completed on Time	Improve FOG program effectiveness	Complete Annually	100%
Fats, Oils, and Grease ("FOG") Management Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 7/21/2015	Section VI, Paragraph 20(c)	Number of Pretreatment Program Employees Trained on FOG Management Program	Improve employee program knowledge through training	100%	100%

[1] Efforts and resources for 2025 were dedicated to removing Hamilton Place hot spot 100%. This was achieved but limited the total linear footage removed.

Table 2-1
CMOM Program Summary

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025						
CMOM Program	**CMOM Program Status**	**CD Reference**	**CMOM Program KPI**	**CMOM KPI Purpose**	**Established Performance Measure**	**Actual Measured Performance**
Pump Station Operations Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 10/22/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(e)	Pump Station ("PS") Operational Checks	Improve pump station performance	95% adherence to PS/CSOTF visit schedule	95% completed on time
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Preventive Maintenance ("PM") Completion Schedule	Measure PM program effectiveness	95% adherence to PM schedule	95% completed on time
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Number of Preventable Work Orders	Measure work order program effectiveness	Less than 5 preventable work orders per month	Total of 16 and average of 1.33 preventable work orders per month in 2025
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Track Work Orders Found Via PM Activities	Evaluate effectiveness of the PM program	Track the number of CMs generated as a result of a PM	12% for 2025 overall (158 CMs and 1303 PMs)
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Track the Age of Work Orders	Improve work order process	No work orders older than 6 months	Average of 34 work orders older than 6 months in 2024 (3.1% of total work orders)[2]

[2] Measured performance was not met due to control panels delay

Table 2-1
CMOM Program Summary

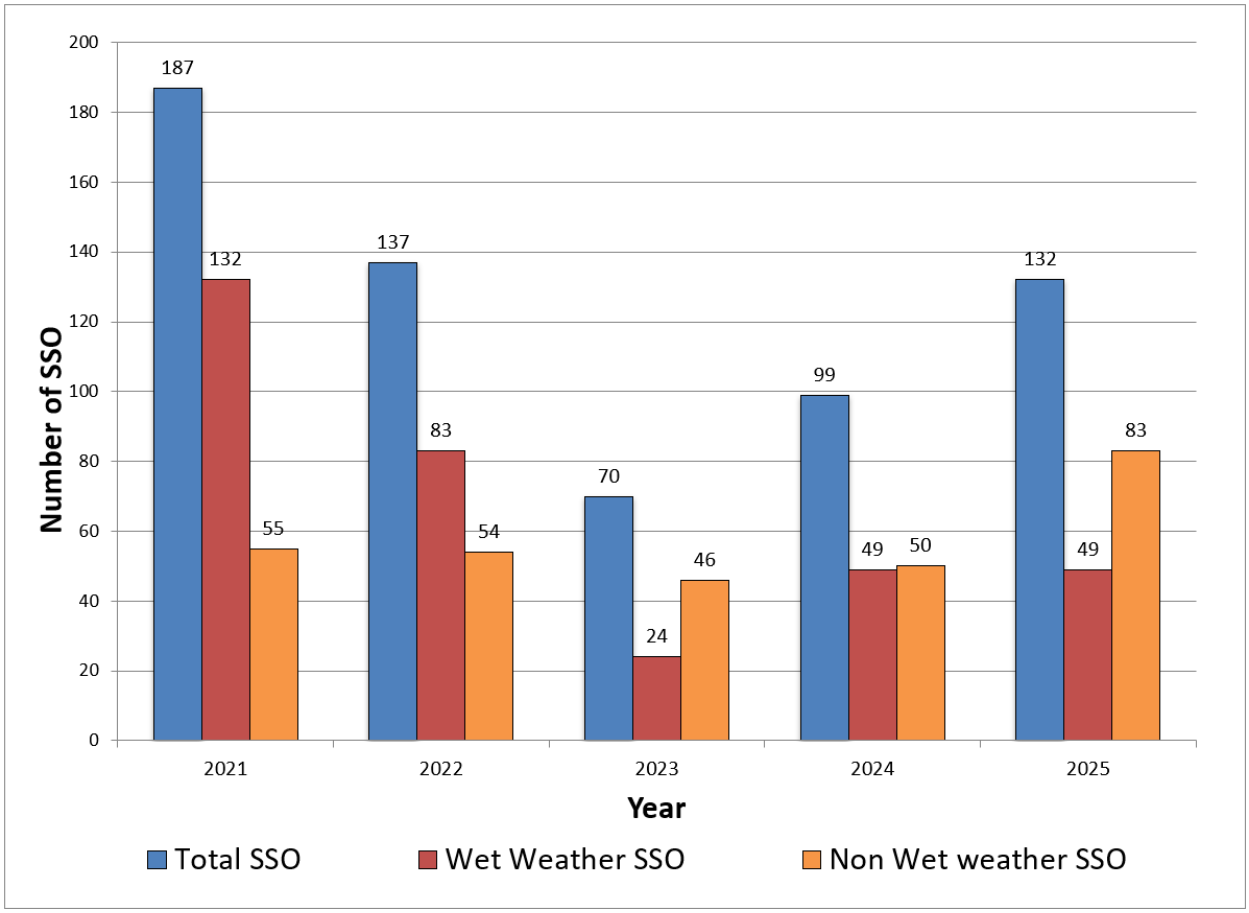
January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025						
CMOM Program	**CMOM Program Status**	**CD Reference**	**CMOM Program KPI**	**CMOM KPI Purpose**	**Established Performance Measure**	**Actual Measured Performance**
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Percentage of Emergency Work Orders	Track the reliability of the City assets	Less than 10% of the work orders are emergencies	Emergency work orders were 0.3% of total work orders written
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Work Orders Awaiting Parts	Improve work order program	No Work Orders Older than 30 days Awaiting Parts	Average of 7 work orders older than 30 days awaiting parts (8% of total work orders)[3]
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Work Backlog	Measure work order program effectiveness	Not more than 6 weeks of work	85% of work orders written were closed within the allotted time period to complete[4]
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Overtime as a Percent of Total Hours Worked	Improve pump station program by measuring overall overtime usage	Less than 5%	10.5% OT[5]
Capacity Assurance Program (“CAP”)	Approved by EPA and TDEC 10/13/2016	Section VI, Paragraph 20(h)	Applicable CD components to be identified during program implementation	N/A	N/A	N/A

[3] Measured performance was impacted by manufacturing and shipping delays. The City is working on enhanced warehouse management to improve performance of this KPI in the next reporting period.
[4] This KPI has seen continual improvement over previous years due to better management of work orders.
[5] Operators spent significant OT primarily monitoring Hixson #2 PS due to concerns with contractor performance.

3.0 SSO Trends Analysis

The City conducted a trends analysis of the cause, duration, and volume of SSO events for the 60-month period spanning January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2025. Rainfall data collected during the same time period was included in the analysis to illustrate the effects of heavy, sustained rainfall on the occurrence, duration, and volume of the recorded SSO events. Figure 3-1 below provides a summary of SSO events by year for the reporting period:

Figure 3-1
SSO Events by Year



As illustrated in Figure 3-1, there was a downward trend in total SSO events (-37%), including wet weather SSO events (-74%), over the five-year period. There was an increase in non-wet weather SSO events (+44%) over the five-year period. During the same period, there was a downward trend in rainfall (-16%). The majority of SSO events during the reporting period were due to wet weather (37%), followed by “other” (34%), as illustrated in Figure 3-2, which depicts SSO events by cause per quarter for the reporting period. The majority (87%) of these “other”

caused SSOs were construction related. The significant downward trend in wet weather SSO events shows a clear impact that the capacity-related capital projects has had in reducing Inflow and Infiltration ("I/I") under the Consent Decree Program.

We attribute the positive trend in non-wet weather SSOs due to an overall increase in program-related construction activity. There were 37 construction-related SSOs in 2025, which make up 48% of all construction related SSOs since the Program began in 2013. The overall non-wet weather trend since the start of the Program continues to be downward (-32%) showing the efficacy of the City's CMOM Program.

Based on averaged data from the 13 rain gauges installed throughout Chattanooga, the observed rainfall in 2025 was 7% higher than normal.

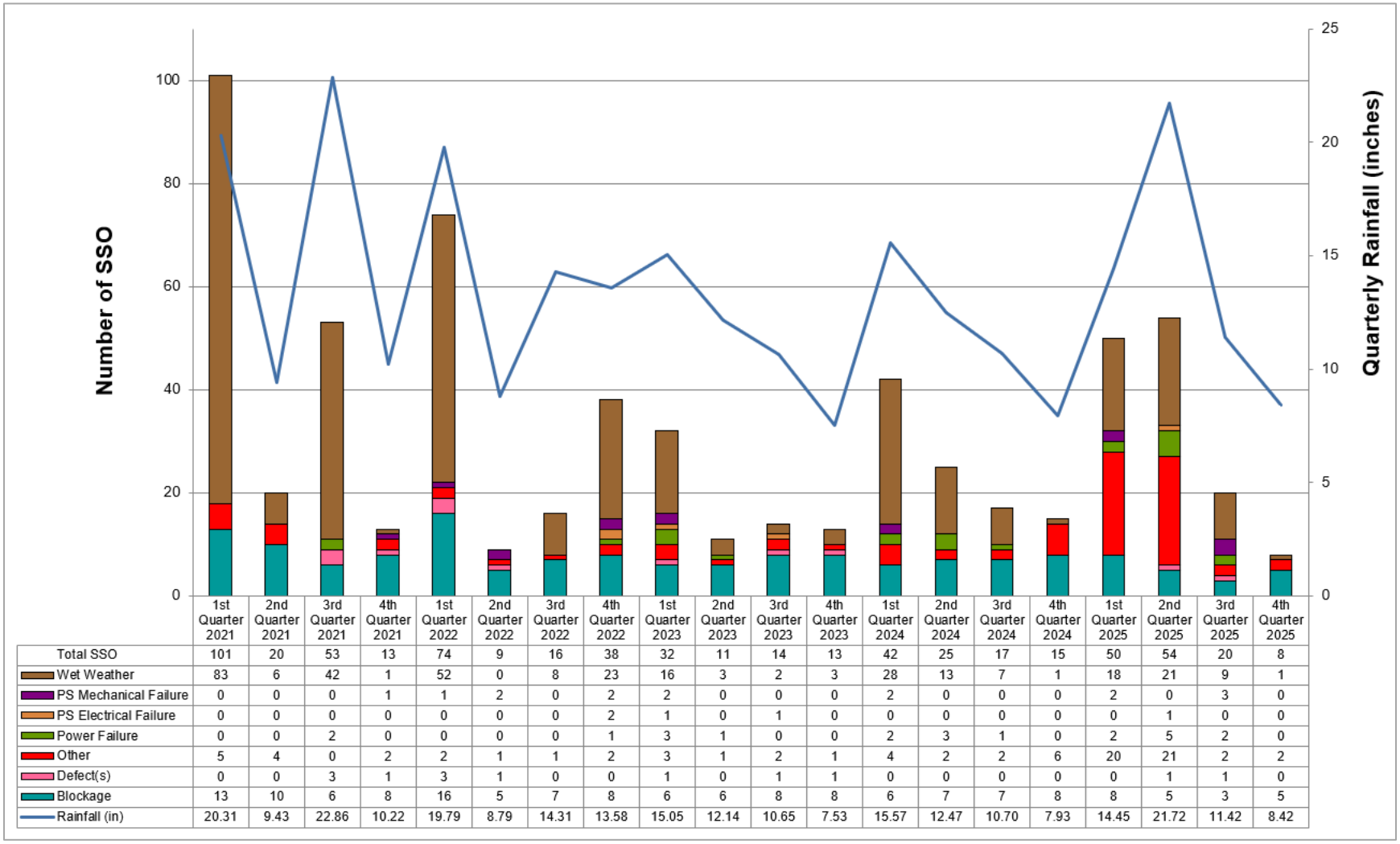
Figure 3-3 depicts total SSO events and rainfall accumulation per quarter. Looking at the overall, five-year, quarterly trends, there has been a 59% reduction in the number of SSOs.

Figure 3-4 depicts cumulative SSO duration and rainfall accumulation per quarter or the sum of the durations of each SSO event that was recorded per quarter for the reporting period. There is a very significant decreasing trend in cumulative SSO duration in the 5-year span (-99%), showing significant reduction of I/I in the system.

Figure 3-5 depicts cumulative SSO volume and rainfall accumulation per quarter or the sum of the volumes of each SSO event that was recorded per quarter for the reporting period. Looking at the overall, five-year, quarterly trends, there has been an increase in total SSO volume by 184%. There were fifteen (15) Eastbank/Westbank overflows in 2025, due to the Moccasin Bend Environmental Campus ("MBEC") EQ – UNOX Piping Improvements and the MBEC Influent Pump Station improvement projects under construction that limited capacity at the MBEC. The latter is now completed and the former is anticipated to be completed in the first half of 2026. With these projects completed, we anticipate that these overflows will be eliminated for wet weather events up to the 2-year 24-hour design storm.

Excluding the SSO events caused by construction and temporary capacity limitation at the MBEC, the wet-weather SSO volume continues to show a very significant downward trend, showing the significant impact of I/I reduction and capacity upgrade projects completed under the Consent Decree Program.

Figure 3-2
SSO Events by Cause



	1st Quarter 2021	2nd Quarter 2021	3rd Quarter 2021	4th Quarter 2021	1st Quarter 2022	2nd Quarter 2022	3rd Quarter 2022	4th Quarter 2022	1st Quarter 2023	2nd Quarter 2023	3rd Quarter 2023	4th Quarter 2023	1st Quarter 2024	2nd Quarter 2024	3rd Quarter 2024	4th Quarter 2024	1st Quarter 2025	2nd Quarter 2025	3rd Quarter 2025	4th Quarter 2025
Total SSO	101	20	53	13	74	9	16	38	32	11	14	13	42	25	17	15	50	54	20	8
Wet Weather	83	6	42	1	52	0	8	23	16	3	2	3	28	13	7	1	18	21	9	1
PS Mechanical Failure	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	3	0
PS Electrical Failure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Power Failure	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	2	3	1	0	2	5	2	0
Other	5	4	0	2	2	1	1	2	3	1	2	1	4	2	2	6	20	21	2	2
Defect(s)	0	0	3	1	3	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Blockage	13	10	6	8	16	5	7	8	6	6	8	8	6	7	7	8	8	5	3	5
Rainfall (in)	20.31	9.43	22.86	10.22	19.79	8.79	14.31	13.58	15.05	12.14	10.65	7.53	15.57	12.47	10.70	7.93	14.45	21.72	11.42	8.42

Figure 3-3
Quarterly SSO Quantities

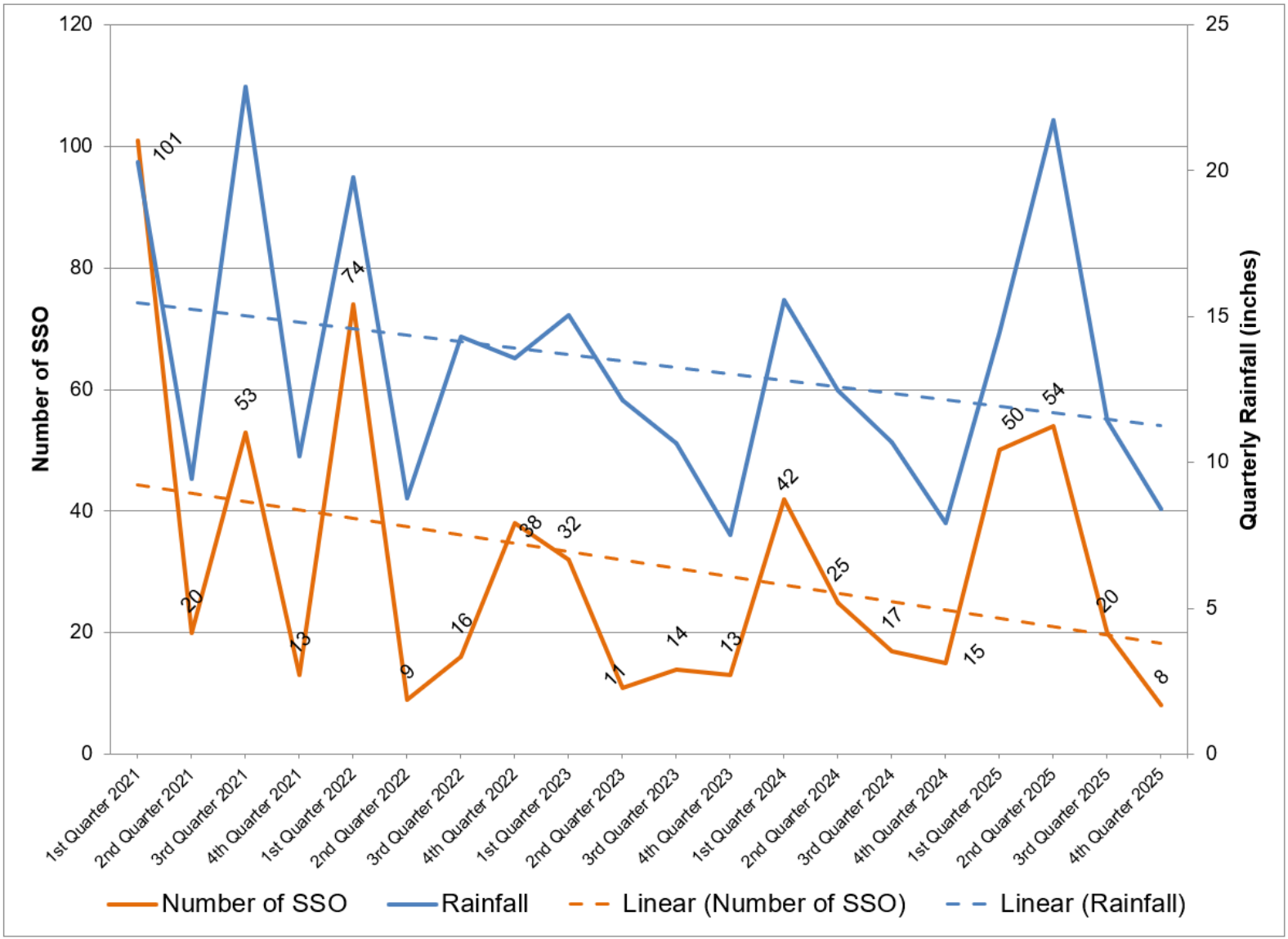


Figure 3-4
Quarterly SSO Durations

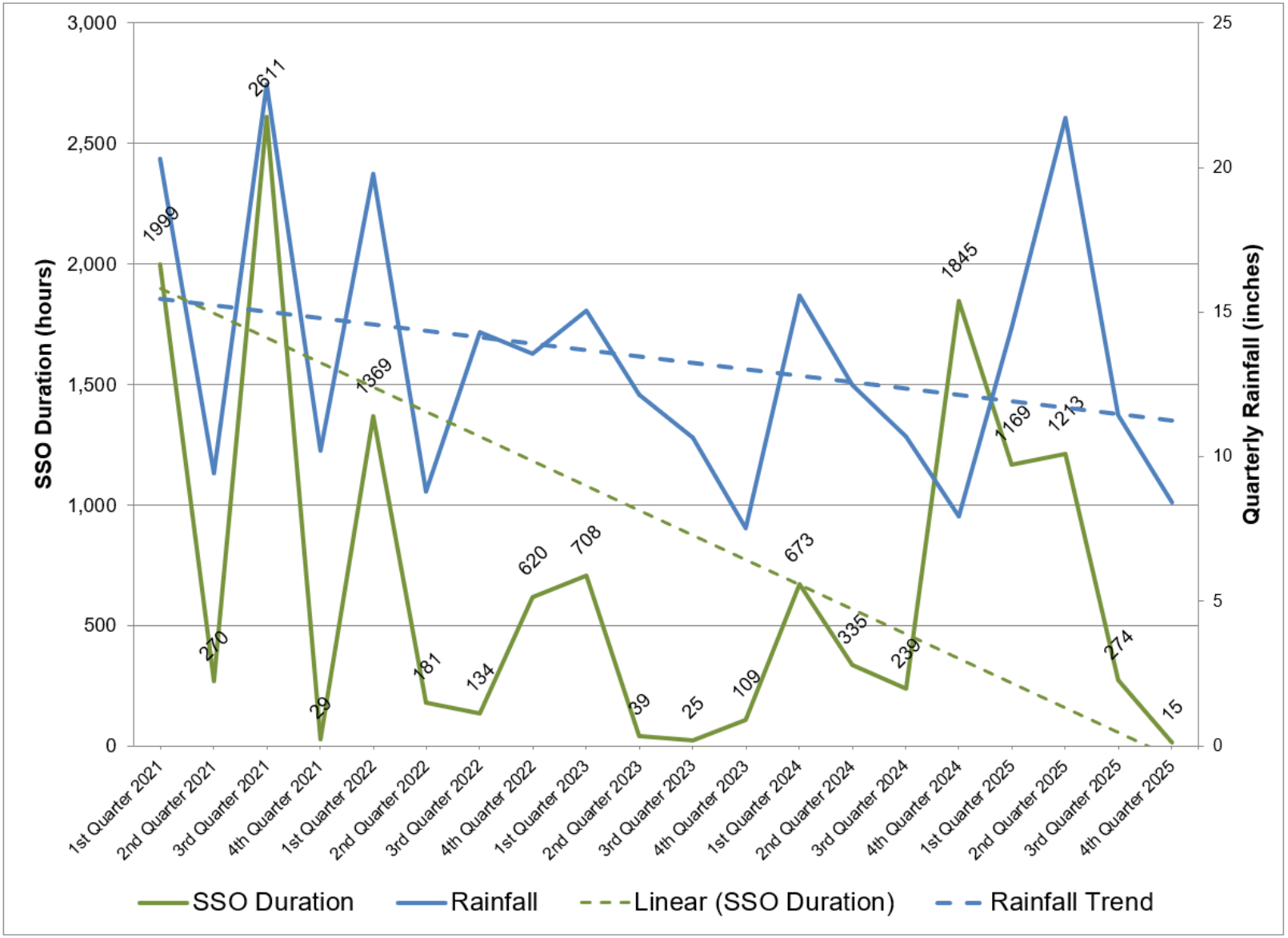


Figure 3-5
Quarterly SSO Volume