

Ammonia Overfeed Events

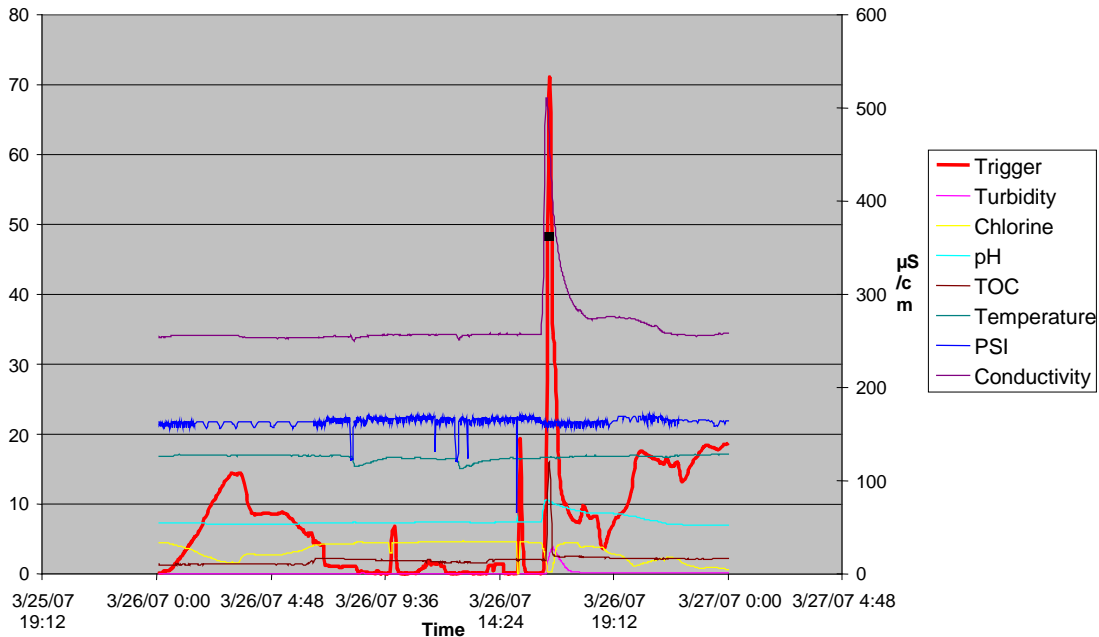


Figure 1. March Ammonia Overfeed Event.

On March 26th, 2007; maintenance was performed at the plant supplying water to the distribution system being monitored. After the maintenance was completed, the plant was restarted and the system that feeds ammonia to create monochloramine as a residual disinfectant overfed the chemical. The person in charge of the on-line monitors immediately noticed the increase in pH and notified plant operations. Operations reported a problem with ammonia feed pumps. The problem was temporarily fixed, but a slug of ammonia was sent into the distribution system. Several customers called, complaining about an ammonia smell and taste coming from the tap. The exact amount of ammonia released was unknown, but was believed to be less than 10 ppm. The facility continued operations but temporarily switched to free chlorine as a disinfectant until July 2nd. See figure 1.