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TO: Public Release
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CC: File
SUBJECT: COVID Increase

*Yorkville-Bristol Sanitary District Sewer Surveillance Reports Post
Thanksgiving Increase in COVID-19 Detection*

YORKVILLE, ILLINOIS—December 05, 2021—The proliferation of SARS-CoV-2 across the globe during 2020 created a health crisis pandemic on a scale not seen for a century. The Yorkville-Bristol Sanitary District (YBSD) has continued a pilot program with RJN Group, Inc., and GT Molecular to leverage an existing technology in a new way: sewer surveillance to identify COVID-19 infections.

For the months of June & July 2021, the COVID-19 viral load for the community had dropped below detection levels. Beginning in August 2021, the COVID-19 viral levels had increased and then held steady between ~0.25-0.5% of the population infected. However, after the Thanksgiving holiday weekend the COVID-19 viral levels increased again to ~1% of the population infected.

Per GT Molecular, the virus make-up is likely 80% Delta and 20% Delta Plus variants. This follows a trend that GT Molecular has witnessed in the U.S. over the past month where the predominant variant is Delta or Delta-Plus.
