



# **The Sewerage & Water Board**

## **OF NEW ORLEANS**

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**February 4, 2021**

Dear Mayor Cantrell, Honorable Members of the New Orleans City Council, and Orleans Parish Delegation:

This report is delivered in accordance which Revised Statute 33:4091, Section F, which states: *“In addition to the other requirements of this Section, the board shall send a report, by electronic mail, to the members of the Orleans Parish legislative delegation and the members of the governing authority of Orleans Parish detailing the pumping and electrical power of its facilities and the available manpower no later than twenty-four hours prior to a hurricane entering the Gulf of Mexico as determined by the National Weather Service and no later than forty eight hours after a flood watch or warning or thunderstorm watch or warning is issued by the National Weather Service for any area of Orleans Parish.”*

On Thursday, February 3, 2022, the National Weather Service issued flood advisories associated with thunderstorms in and around Orleans Parish. The Sewerage & Water Board’s manpower, pumping and electrical power is detailed below.

### **RAINFALL**

Total rainfall during the February 3rd event was not significant, but some areas of the city experienced very high rainfall intensity. In several areas of the city, intensity reached an average of 2.66” an hour for a period of between 15-25 minutes, which caused areas of localized street pooling. The standing water receded as expected as stormwater made its way into the system. Average total rainfall on February 3rd was less than 2” around the city and did not result in significant pooling.

## **PUMPING AND POWER**

Below is the status of SWBNO's pumping and power equipment at the outset of the rain event.

### **Drainage Pumps:**

A total of 96 of 99 drainage pumps were available at the outset of the event.

**DPS 14:           #4 Pump out of service for gear box repairs. Vendor in possession of gear box performing repairs**

**DPS 6:            F and I pumps out of service**

On Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, D Pump at Drainage Pumping Station 3 went offline due to an electrical bus issue. The SWB Facility Maintenance (FM) Department has started the repairs and it is anticipated that the work will be completed by February 11th. During the evening that evening, the electrical resistor grid for D Pump at PDS 12 malfunctioned and the SWB FM has started repair the component. It is anticipated that this work will be completed in 3 to 5 business days.

The remaining drainage assets performed as expected during the course of the event, with no significant issues.

### **Underpass Stations:**

All 27 underpass station pumps (UPS) were available and ready for use during the event. There were no reported issues with the underpass pumps.

### **Power:**

During the February 3<sup>rd</sup> advisory, Turbine 1 was out of service due to higher than normal machine vibrations. The remaining assets provided enough power to address the rainfall. Turbines 4, 5, and 6 were online during this event. Four out of five EMDs, and all frequency changers were available. The remainder of the power assets were utilized as needed and performed as expected during the rainfall event.

EMD #1 currently is offline while being retrofitted with a new control system and smart fan, which will reduce the noise generated by the machine while in use. The vendor is currently waiting to receive parts needed to complete the upgrade which have been on back order for a while.

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Capacity in MW</b>	<b>Available</b>
T1	25 Hz	Approx. 6 MW	0
T4	25 Hz	20 MW	18
T5**	25 Hz	20 MW	17.5
Carrollton Frequency Changers 1&2	Converts 60 to 25Hz	8.5 MW	8.5
Station D Frequency Changers 3&4	Converts 60 to 25Hz	12 MW	12
West Bank Power Complex (Algiers Water Treatment Plant)	Converts 60 to 25Hz	2.5 MW	2.5
Five EMDs	25Hz	12.5 MW (total) 2.5 MW (each)	10
T6 (via Plant Frequency Changer)	Converts 60 to 25Hz	3.75 MW	3.75
		<b>Total 25 Hz:</b>	<b>72.25 MW</b>
T6	60 Hz	22 MW	<b>22 (60 Hz)</b>

\*T3 has been decommissioned as of May 2021 and has been removed from the table.

\*\* T5 was tested up to 17.5MW during the pre-start and commissioning stage.

## **STAFFING**

Of New Orleans' 24 drainage pumping stations, some are staffed, some run remotely, and some are staffed as circumstances dictate. For this event, all stations were staffed appropriately.