



The Sewerage & Water Board

OF NEW ORLEANS

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July 7, 2022

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 Tuesday, July 5, 2022, the National Weather Service issued a flash flood warning associated with a storm system that passed over Orleans Parish between approximately 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Below is an initial report regarding the status of SWBNO’s pumping and power equipment and facilities before and during the event.

STORM IMPACTS

This storm produced very high-intensity rainfall bursts across the city. The majority of rainfall accumulated within an hour, with several locations recording over 2” in that hour. The highest intensity rainfall rate recorded was 6.72 in/hr in the Gentilly area. The highest accumulation of 3.25” recorded at DSP-17, with other amounts over 2.5” recorded in the Upper and Lower 9th wards. These short bursts of high-intensity rainfall resulted in temporary, localized street flooding that receded as water reached the drainage system. As detailed below, all available pumping and power equipment performed as expected.

PUMPING AND POWER

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

Drainage Pumps:

A total of 94 of 99 drainage pumps were available at the outset of the event.

- DPS 6:** I pump out of service, awaiting shaft replacement; return to service Q1 2023
H pump out of service; anticipated return in early July
- DPS 11:** E pump out of service due to an oil leak; contractor engaged for repairs
- DPS 13:** No. 4 pump designated emergency use only; in-depth inspection underway
- DPS 16:** No. 2 pump out of service; in-house staff are investigating and making repairs

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:

Turbines 4 and 5 were utilized for this event and performed well. Frequency changers, and four out of five EMDs were all available for use. Note that frequency changer #3 at Station D is presently offline for scheduled cleaning and maintenance. Turbine 6 is also presently offline for scheduled maintenance. The remainder of the power assets were utilized as needed and performed as expected during the rainfall event.

Unit*	Frequency	Capacity in MW	Available
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	6 (#3 offline for scheduled maintenance)
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	0 (offline for scheduled maintenance)
		Total 25 Hz:	62.5 MW
T6	60 Hz	22 MW	0 MW

*T3 has been decommissioned as of May 2021, and T1 has been decommissioned as of June 2022. Both units have been removed from this 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.