

MEMORANDUM

To: All Councilmembers

From: CURO By: Jared Reese

CC: Paul Harang and Anita Curran

Date: October 18, 2023

RE: The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans Meeting 10/18/2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (S&WBNO) Board of Directors (the Board) met on Wednesday, October 18, 2023. In addition, the Board received updates on the general standing of the SWBNO. The complete packet for the meeting may be found [here](#). 1

Power Complex

SWBNO reported that 90% of the transmission line work was completed, and Entergy remained on schedule for completion in 2024.

SWBNO Connections and Backup Plant

The company stated that the utility rack was 65% completed, and the bond commission approved \$10 million for the project. The manufacturer of the static frequency changers and Turbine 7 ran tests at their facilities to ensure quality. The company also stated that they wanted to complete the projects before the 2025 storm season.

Salt Water Wedge

The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers released an update to SWBNO every Thursday. According to the current report, the salt water held in place but may continue to migrate upriver. The projections did not suggest that the Algier and Carrollton intakes would see an increase in salinity.

West Bank

SWBNO coordinated with the Army Corps for transfer barges to transport 14M gallons of fresh water daily to add to intakes and dilute salinated water.

Corrosion Control

SWBNO added a dashboard with the results of daily chloride testing. The company sent water chemistry reports to GOHSEP, LDH, and the EPA, who helped recommend a corrosion sampling plan.

State and Federal Stakeholder Engagement

S&WBNO received a visit from GOHSEP, the National Security Council, and the White House Infrastructure staff to tour the needs of water treatment facilities on October 19. SWBNO provided tours of the Carrollton Water Treatment Plant and the Algiers Treatment and Intake Facility. The company also met with Jefferson Parish officials to discuss long-term solutions.

Water Quality Master Planning in Progress

The company evaluated proposals and agreed to start the planning process by the end of the year, which would last 18 - 24 months. In light of anticipated federal regulations, the SWBNO based its upgrades on recommendations to the treatment system to combat saltwater intrusion, emerging contaminants, and outdated lead and copper regulations.

Smart Meter Updates

S&WBNO integrated smart metering technology with the company's IT systems. As part of the O&M, 2,200 meters, including 55 large meters, were installed. The installation of 1.5" and 2" meters began slowly to improve the process and procedures.

Plumbing and One-Stop Update

SWBNO integrated with One-Stop to allow plumbers to register at One-Stop with approval. The public can submit permit applications via One-Stop. Once permits get approved and paid, the public can begin work and call for inspections.

Continued Funding Efforts Rolling Forward of Millage

- SWBNO stated it would receive \$182M, either committed from other agencies or applied for through grants:
- Intent to request Council to set Millage by year's end estimated 19-23%
- Estimated \$198 per year for a home assessed at \$100,000 or \$76 per year with a Homestead Exemption
- \$38.9M LDEQ Revolving Fund for additional wastewater plant repairs
- Lead Service Line Replacement Program
- \$84M applied for via IJA
- \$5M LDEQ & \$5M LDH for Smart Meters
- \$31.5M LDEQ Revolving Fund for Sewer Consent Decree
- \$3.3M Hazard Mitigation Grant Program portable/emergency generators
- \$15M Capital Outlay, \$10M moved from P5 to P1 for Power Complex funding with \$5M additional in cash Meeting in Baton Rouge tomorrow, Thursday, October 19.

