



The Sewerage & Water Board

OF NEW ORLEANS

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www.swbno.org

September 24, 2024

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

This report is delivered in accordance with 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 September 24, 2024, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) announced the formation of Tropical Storm Helene in the Gulf of Mexico. The storm is expected to become a Hurricane and enter the Gulf of Mexico on Wednesday, September 25th. The status of SWBNO’s pumping and power equipment before the event is detailed below.

ANTICIPATED STORM IMPACTS

As of the 5pm EDT National Weather Service (NWS) Advisory, Helene is expected to make landfall along the Florida panhandle as a major hurricane on the late evening of September 26, 2024. At this time, impacts to the New Orleans area are anticipated to be minor. However, changes to the forecast may still occur.

PUMPING AND POWER

Below is the status of SWBNO’s pumping and power equipment prior to this event.

Drainage Pumps:

A total of 90 of 97 drainage pumps are presently in service.

Note that the major drainage pump count has been revised from 99 to 97. The two pumps at DPS 17, which are used for dry weather flow, are considered constant duty pumps for this location. Stormwater drainage from the Gentilly Area is served by DPS 19, located at Florida Ave and the west side of the Industrial Canal.

DPS 6: 1 pump is out of service while inspection of pump is in progress to determine the extent of any repairs needed. RTS October 2024

12 additional pumps were available at this station

DPS 10: No. 1 pump (60-hz) out of service. Vendor selected to refurbish pump. RTS October 2024.

3 additional pumps were available at this station

DPS 13: No. 4 pump (diesel pump) is for emergency use only. Additional drainage funding is needed to move forward with repairs.

5 additional pumps were available at this station

DPS 14: No. 3 and No. 4 pumps out of service due to mechanical issues. RTS pending on-going SWBNO work and contractor work required.

2 additional pumps were available at this station

Note that drainage from this area can also be addressed by DPS 10, DPS 16, and Dwyer DPS via the Morrison Canal.

DPS 15: No. 1 pump gearbox repairs are in progress. RTS Q2 2025.

2 additional pumps were available at this station

DPS 18: Pump No. 1 out of service as of May 2024. RTS pending further mechanical inspection and repairs.

1 additional pump was available at this station, and a portable pump was installed at this location as a temporary measure.

Underpass Stations:

At UPS Old Carrollton, which services the Carrollton Ave/Interstate I-10 underpass, one of three pumps at that location are out of service. A temporary pump is deployed at this location.

Power:

Turbine 4, Turbines 5 (25-hz), and 6 (60-hz), along with four frequency changers on the Eastbank, and one on the Westbank are available. At present, 3 of 5 EMDs are available.

Unit*	Frequency	Capacity in MW	Available
T4	25 Hz	20 MW	18.5 MW
T5**	25 Hz	20 MW	16 (revised capacity)
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)	7.5
Plant Frequency Changer via T6	Converts 60 to 25Hz	3.75 MW	0 MW (RTS to be determined)
		Total 25 Hz:	65.0 MW
T6	60 Hz	22 MW	22 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.

STAFFING

Of New Orleans’ 24 drainage pumping stations, some are staffed, some run remotely, and some are staffed as circumstances dictate. All stations will be staffed as appropriate if needed.