



# **The Sewerage & Water Board**

## **OF NEW ORLEANS**

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**July 16, 2025**

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.”*

A flash flood warning was issued for the New Orleans area for the afternoon of July 12, 2025 due to a summer weather pattern of afternoon storms. The status of SWBNO’s pumping and power equipment before and during the events is detailed below.

### **STORM IMPACTS**

The majority of the rainfall fell on the Westbank, with 3.9 inches of rain recorded at the Algiers Water Plant / Westbank Power (WBP) location. Nearly 2 inches of rain was recorded at this location between 3 and 4pm. The highest rainfall intensity of 3.5 inches/hour was recorded at this location as well.

The average accumulation across the network was 0.7 inches, and the average rainfall intensity observed across the network was 1.2 inches/hour. No rain was recorded at DPS 6, DPS 7, DPS 12, or at the Carrollton Water Plant.

No impacts from this rain event were reported by the Real Time Crime Center (RTCC). However, street flooding was reported on the Westbank, particularly along General Meyer Ave. Reports of flooding along General Meyer, Murl, and Atlantic are likely related to catch basin and lateral line issues which are being investigated. Canals on the Westbank were also elevated, particularly the General DeGaulle Canal and Donnor Canal.

## **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 86 of 93 drainage pumps were reported in service at the outset of the event.

- DPS 4:** E pump is out of service as of June 2025. A contractor has been engaged to repair the pump, with RTS anticipated by the end of August/early September.  
*4 additional pumps are 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 are available at this station*
- DPS 14:** No. 3 pump out of service due to mechanical issues. Contractor repair work is underway, with RTS anticipated in Q3 2025.  
*3 additional pumps are 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 Q3 2025.  
*2 additional pumps are available at this station*
- DPS 16:** Pump No. 4 out of service as of June 2025. Repairs to this pump are in progress, with repairs anticipated by end of July 2025.  
*3 additional pumps are available at this station*
- DPS 18:** Pump No. 1 out of service as of May 2024. A contractor has been engaged to make the repair, with RTS anticipated by end of Q3 2025.  
*1 additional pump is available at this station.*
- DPS 19:** Pump No. H1 out of service as of June 2025. Repairs by SWBNO crews are underway, with RTS anticipated in early August 2025.  
*1 additional pump is available at this station.*

At DPS 13, which serves the Westbank of New Orleans (excluding Lower Coast), two pumps were in use when the canal levels first began to rise around 4pm.

Around 6pm, an instrumentation issue was identified whereby the elevation of the water in the pump station suction basin was not reported accurately to the pump station operators. That issue was corrected immediately upon identification, and the first of two larger pumps came online around 6:15pm. The second large pump came online around 7:30pm due to a mechanical issue in starting the pump.

For reference, maps showing the tributaries (i.e. drainage areas) for each pumping station are included on the Pumping and Power Dashboard

(<https://www.swbno.org/Projects/PumpingandPower>), which are included as reference maps at the end of this report.

### **Underpass Stations:**

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

No issues with the underpass stations were reported during this event.

### **Power:**

A combination of Frequency Changers and Turbine 5 were used for this event, with no major pumping or power issues encountered during the event. Turbine 6 was not available.

<b>Unit*</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Capacity in MW</b>	<b>Available</b>
T4	25 Hz	20 MW (18.5 MW revised capacity)	18.5
T5	25 Hz	20 MW (16 MW revised capacity)	16
Carrollton Frequency Changers 1&2	Converts 60 to 25Hz	8.5 MW	8.5

<b>Unit*</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Capacity in MW</b>	<b>Available</b>
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	0 (out of service)
Five EMDs	25Hz	12.5 MW (total) 2.5 MW (each)	12.5
Plant Frequency Changer via T6	Converts 60 to 25Hz	3.75 MW	0 MW (RTS to be determined)
		Total 25 Hz:	<b>67.5 MW</b>
T6	60 Hz	22 MW	T6 is available for emergency use only; repairs expected by June 16, 2025

\*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. For this event, all stations were staffed appropriately.

## DRAINAGE AREA REFERENCE MAPS

For a complete map, visit <https://www.swbno.org/Projects/PumpingandPower>





