



The Sewerage & Water Board

OF NEW ORLEANS

625 ST. JOSEPH STREET
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www.swbno.org

July 21, 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 flood watch for the New Orleans area was issued for July 16 through 18, 2025, in anticipation of heavy rain impacts from tropical moisture associated with disturbance Invest 93L. Scattered thunderstorms capable of producing heavy rain moved through the area throughout the three-day period. The status of SWBNO's pumping and power equipment before and during the events is detailed below.

STORM IMPACTS

July 16th, 2025

Thunderstorms began in the evening hours in the New Orleans metro area and continued through the night. The highest recorded accumulation was 1.28 inches at DPS 14 New Orleans East – Lakefront. The average accumulation across affected stations was 0.5 inches. The highest rainfall intensity was 4.1 inches/hour at DPS 14 New Orleans East - Lakefront. The average rainfall intensity across the network was 1 inches/hour.

The RTCC did not report any flooding.

July 17th, 2025

Light rain continued throughout the day, tapering off around 8 PM. Most of the rainfall on Thursday was recorded between 1 PM and 5 PM. During the 24 hour period, total rainfall across the network averaged at 0.5 inches. The station recording the highest collection amount was DPS 20 in New Orleans East, where 1.5 inches of rain was recorded. Rain intensity values averaged 1.5 inches/hour across the network. The highest recorded rain intensity was observed at DPS 20 in New Orleans East, which saw 3.4 inches/hour.

Only one instance of flooding was reported by the RTCC at Downman and Chef Highway that afternoon.

July 18th, 2025

Less than 0.1 inches of rain were recorded at SWBNO stations on July 18.

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.

No pump issues were encountered during the event. However, another pump at DPS 13 has since been placed into ‘emergency use only’ status.

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 4 were used for this event, with no major pumping or power issues encountered during the event. Turbine 6 was returned to service in the afternoon of July 16, 2025.

Unit*	Frequency	Capacity in MW	Available
T4	25 Hz	20 MW (18.5 MW revised capacity)	18.5
T5	25 Hz	20 MW	16

Unit*	Frequency	Capacity in MW	Available
		(16 MW 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	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:	67.5 MW
T6	60 Hz	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. For this event, all stations were staffed appropriately.

DRAINAGE AREA REFERENCE MAPS

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



