



# **The Sewerage & Water Board**

## **OF NEW ORLEANS**

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**October 28, 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 series of severe thunderstorm, flash flood, and tornado warnings were issued for the New Orleans area on October 26, 2025 due to a series of strong thunderstorms moving through the area. The status of SWBNO’s pumping and power equipment before and during the events is detailed below.

### **STORM IMPACTS**

The majority of rain fell within New Orleans between about 6:30am and 9am, with the majority of rainfall accumulated between 7am and 8am.

The highest total rainfall amount was observed at the Carrollton Water Plant at 2.44 inches, with over 2 inches recorded in an hour. This location recorded the highest rain rate per hour of 7.44 inches per hour. Localized/instantaneous rain rates between 7 and 9 inches/hour were reported at various monitoring stations around the City during the period of highest rainfall.

The average collection amount across the network was 1.54 inches, with an average rain rate across the network was 3.85 inches per hour. Rainfall rates at Stations 1, 6, 7, 12, and the Algiers Water Plant recorded rates exceeding 4 inches/hour.

The RTCC reported several areas of localized pooling, which receded by 10am. However, widespread flooding was not reported.

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

- DPS 3:**        **D pump is out of service as of August 2025. A contractor has been engaged to repair the pump, with RTS anticipated by the end of 2025**  
                      *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.**
- No. 6 pump is on standby for emergency use only as of July 2025. An investigation of the repairs needed is underway.**  
                      *4 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 November 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 have been completed. SWBNO crews are reinstalling the equipment, with estimated completion in November 2025.**  
                      *2 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 November 2025.**  
                      *1 additional pump is available at this station.*

No major pump issues were encountered during the event.

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.

The new Static Frequency Changer 1 (SFC1) is presently undergoing testing as part of a 30-day reliability test. However, it was not available for this event due to a trip event that occurred on the afternoon of 10/24/2025, which is being investigated.

| <b>Unit*</b>                                                  | <b>Frequency</b>       | <b>Capacity<br/>in MW</b>              | <b>Available</b>               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| T4                                                            | 25 Hz                  | 20 MW<br>(18.5 MW<br>revised capacity) | 18.5                           |
| T5                                                            | 25 Hz                  | 20 MW<br>(16 MW revised<br>capacity)   | 0 (RTS estimated<br>11/1/2025) |
| Carrollton Frequency<br>Changers 1&2                          | Converts 60 to<br>25Hz | 8.5 MW                                 | 8.5                            |
| Station D Frequency<br>Changers 3&4                           | Converts 60 to<br>25Hz | 12 MW                                  | 12                             |
| West Bank Power<br>Complex (Algiers Water<br>Treatment Plant) | Converts 60 to<br>25Hz | 2.5 MW                                 | 0 (out of service)             |
| Five EMDs                                                     | 25Hz                   | 12.5 MW (total)<br>2.5 MW (each)       | 12.5                           |
| Plant Frequency Changer<br>via T6                             | Converts 60 to<br>25Hz | 3.75 MW                                | 0 MW (RTS to be<br>determined) |
|                                                               |                        | Total 25 Hz:                           | <b>51.5 MW</b>                 |
|                                                               |                        |                                        |                                |
| 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>







