



The Sewerage & Water Board

OF NEW ORLEANS

625 ST. JOSEPH STREET
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www.swbno.org

January 12, 2026

Dear Mayor Moreno, 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 was issued for the New Orleans area on January 10, 2026 due to a strong cold front that moved through the area that morning, including the potential for strong storms and heavy rainfall. The status of SWBNO’s pumping and power equipment before and during the events is detailed below.

STORM IMPACTS

The rain passed through the area relatively quickly on Saturday morning, between around 9am and 11am.

The highest total rainfall amount was observed at DPS 14 in New Orleans East, at 0.83 inches. This location recorded the highest rain rate per hour of 5.88 inches per hour.

The average collection amount across the network was 0.48 inches, with an average rain rate across the network of 2.5 inches/hour.

No reports of flooding were recorded by the Real Time Crime Center (RTCC).

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 completed the required work and the components are being reinstalled at the station, with return to service (RTS) anticipated by end of January 2026.
4 additional pumps are available at this station
- DPS 6:** F pump is out of service due to a motor bearing repair needed. RTS anticipated in the first quarter of 2026.
11 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. 1 pump out of service due to electrical issues. Repair work is underway by SWBNO crews, with RTS anticipated by end of January 2026.
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 18:** Pump No. 2 out of service as of December 2025. A contractor recently completed work on the other pump at this station, and a new contract will be needed to repair Pump #2. RTS is to be determined, based on funding.
1 additional pump is available at this station and a temporary pump has been installed

No 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 rotary frequency changers and Static Frequency Changer #3 were used for the event. It was anticipated that Turbine 5 would also be used and was online in anticipation of rain. Around 8am on Saturday, Turbine 5 indicated an alarm that was serious enough to take the unit offline to protect the equipment. SWBNO crews were able to quickly diagnose and repair the problem, and it was available again for use by 10am.

Unit*	Frequency	Capacity in MW	Available
Static Frequency Changer #1	25 Hz	22 MW	Not available for this event due to on-going contract work
Static Frequency Changer #3	25 Hz	22 MW	22
T4	25 Hz	20 MW (18.5 MW revised capacity)	18.5
T5	25 Hz	20 MW (17.5 MW revised capacity)	17.5
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)

Unit*	Frequency	Capacity in MW	Available
Five EMDs	25Hz	12.5 MW (total) 2.5 MW (each)	0 – out of service due to electrical configuration activities for the Power Complex
Plant Frequency Changer via T6	Converts 60 to 25Hz	3.75 MW	0 MW (RTS to be determined)
		Total 25 Hz:	78.5 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>



