



# **The Sewerage & Water Board**

## **OF NEW ORLEANS**

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**August 20, 2021**

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

This report is delivered in accordance which 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 Tuesday, August 17 at approximately 5:15 p.m. the National Weather Service issued a flash flood advisory for Orleans Parish in response to heavy rain in the area. The following is a preliminary report detailing the manpower, pumping and electrical power of the Sewerage and Water Board’s (SWBNO) during the course of the event.

### **RAINFALL**

Recorded rainfall over the course of this 90-minute event ranged from less than half an inch in many areas to approximately 2.25 inches at Drainage Pumping Station 6 in Lakeview. The rainfall intensity at its peak reached around 2” an hour. There were reports of some localized street flooding throughout the metro area during the peak stages of the rain event, but the pooling receded quickly.

## **PUMPING AND POWER**

Below is the status of SWBNO's pumping and power equipment at the outset of the rain event.

### **Drainage Pumps:**

A total of 96 of 99 drainage pumps were available at the outset of the event.

**DPS 14: #4 Pump out of service for gear box repairs in the near term**

**DPS 6: I Pump out of service pending pump bearing repairs**

**DPS 12: D Pump out of service pending contractor assessment**

The pumping system operated as anticipated, with no major pump issues to report.

### **Underpass Stations:**

All 27 underpass station pumps (UPS) were available and ready for use during the event. There were no reported issues with the underpass pumps.

### **Power:**

For this short event, Turbine 5, Turbine 6, four out of five EMDs, and all frequency changers were available. Turbine 5 and the EMDs were utilized as needed and performed as expected during the rainfall.

Turbine 4 is currently offline for preventative maintenance related to steam quality. It is expected to return to service this week. Turbine 1 has been taken offline for vacuum system repairs and maintenance. The repairs will commence once Turbine 4 comes back online.

EMD #1 currently is offline while being retrofitted with a new control system and smart fan, which will reduce the noise generated by the machine while in use. Each of the EMDs will be taken offline for the same retrofit over the course of the coming months.

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Capacity in MW</b>	<b>Available</b>
T1	25 Hz	Approx. 6 MW	0

T4	25 Hz	20 MW	0
T5**	25 Hz	20 MW	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	2.5
Five EMDs	25Hz	12.5 MW (total) 2.5 MW (each)	10
T6 (via Plant Frequency Changer)	Converts 60 to 25Hz	3.75 MW	3.75
		Total 25 Hz:	<b>54.25 MW</b>
T6	60 Hz	15 MW	<b>15 (60 Hz)</b>

\*T3 has been decommissioned as of May 2021 and has been removed from the table.

\*\* T5 was tested up to 17.5MW during the pre-start and commissioning stage.

## 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, and support personnel were onsite to help monitor and troubleshoot the various facilities as needed.