



# **The Sewerage & Water Board**

## **OF NEW ORLEANS**

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**September 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 Saturday and Sunday, September 18 and 19, the National Weather Service issued a series of flood advisories associated with thunderstorms in and around Orleans Parish. The following is a preliminary report detailing the Sewerage & Water Board’s manpower, pumping and electrical power over the weekend.

### **RAINFALL**

Rainfall generally was less than 2” over the majority of the city, with higher amounts in some localized areas on Saturday, September 18. There were some reports of localized street flooding in the Lower Garden District and French Quarter neighborhoods, which receded as expected as stormwater made its way into the system.

## **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 93 of 99 drainage pumps were available at the outset of the event.

**DPS 14: #4 Pump out of service for gear box repairs. Vendor in possession of gear box, performing repairs**

**DPS 6: C. F and I pumps out of service; C pump repairs underway**

**DPS 12: D Pump out of service; emergency repairs underway**

**DPS 13: #5 Diesel Pump out of service; repairs underway**

On Wednesday, September 15, 25 Hz pumps C and F at Drainage Pumping Station 6 went offline due to a motor issue. The contractor started emergency repairs on C Pump on Thursday, September 16, and it is anticipated that the work will be completed in approximately 3 weeks. The work on F Pump will start after C Pump is completed. Ten of the thirteen major pumps at Drainage Pumping Station 6 are still available for use (67% capacity).

The remaining drainage assets performed as expected during the course of the event, with no significant issues.

### **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 event, Turbines 4, 5, and 6, three out of five EMDs, and all frequency changers were available. The remainder of the power assets were utilized as needed and performed as expected during the rainfall.

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. EMD #2 is out of service and being diagnosed for repair.

| <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                            | 18                |
| 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)<br>2.5 MW (each) | 7.5               |
| T6 (via Plant Frequency Changer)                        | Converts 60 to 25Hz | 3.75 MW                          | 3.75              |
|   |                     | <b>Total 25 Hz:</b>              | <b>69.75 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.