



The Sewerage & Water Board

OF NEW ORLEANS

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June 22, 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 Thursday, June 17, the National Weather Service issued a tropical storm warning for Orleans Parish ahead of TS Claudette’s landfall on the Louisiana coast early Saturday morning. The following is a preliminary report detailing the manpower, pumping and electrical power of the Sewerage and Water Board’s (SWBNO) facilities during the tropical event.

RAINFALL

Recorded rainfall over the course of the approximately 24-hour event averaged between 2 and 4 inches across the city. The rainfall intensity reached 2.5 inches per hour at the height of the event. There were few reports of street flooding, as the drainage system was able to keep up with the rainfall intensity and the storm’s most significant rain fell to the east of Orleans Parish.

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 98 of 99 drainage pumps were available. One drainage pump at DPS 14 remains out of service and is undergoing electrical repairs.

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

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.

Power:

For this event, Turbine 1, Turbine 6, all 5 EMDs, and all frequency changers were available for use. The turbines and frequency changers performed as expected. While in use, all five EMDs tripped offline around 7:25 on Friday evening. Diesel mechanics from SWBNO and an external vendor were onsite to diagnose the EMD issues and four of the machines were back online around 8:25pm. During the EMD outage, we fully utilized all five frequency changers to supply power to the pumping stations. There were no issues with Entergy's feeders providing power to the frequency converters.

Turbines 4 and 5 are expected to be back online by mid-July. Progress on both machines was delayed slightly by supply chain issues for integral parts.

Unit	Frequency	Capacity in MW	Available
T1	25 Hz	Approx. 6 MW	6
T3*	25 Hz	Approx. 6 MW	0
T4	25 Hz	20 MW	0
T5	25 Hz	20 MW	0
Carrollton Changers 1&2	Frequency 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 MW	2
Five EMDs	25Hz	12.5 MW (total) 2.5 MW (each)	12.5
		Total 25 Hz:	41 MW
T6	60 Hz	15 MW	15 (60 Hz)

*T3 will be listed as inactive going forward, as it has been decommissioned.

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 mechanics were onsite to help monitor and troubleshoot EMD performance as needed.