



# **The Sewerage & Water Board**

## **OF NEW ORLEANS**

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**July 13, 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 Flash Flood Warning was issued for the afternoon of July 11, 2026 due to scattered thunderstorms capable of producing heavy rain that moved through the area. SWBNO's pumping and power equipment before and during the events is detailed below.

### **STORM IMPACTS**

Thunderstorms began during the early afternoon and ended around 3 PM. The highest recorded total rainfall accumulation was 3.94 inches at DPS-6/Lakeview. The Uptown, Carrollton, Mid-City, and Lakeview areas recorded the highest amounts of rainfall, with 3.5 inches in one hour recorded at Central Control at Carrollton Water Plant and DPS 6 on the Orleans/Jefferson Parish line. Between 2 and 3 inches was recorded in a single hour at other stations Uptown and Mid-City. These areas experienced intense rainfall, while areas to the east received lesser amounts. The highest recorded peak rainfall intensity was 7.44 inches/hour at Central Control (CWP/Hollygrove). The average rainfall intensity across the network was 3.40 inches/hour.

The total rainfall accumulation, rainfall intensity, and maximum amount of rainfall recorded in one hour for each SWBNO-monitored location is shown in the table below.

| Site Name       | Address                  | Neighborhood                             | Total Rainfall (inch) | Rain Intensity (inch/h) | Peak Rain Hour (inch/h) |
|-----------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Central Control | 8800 S. Claiborne Ave.   | Hollygrove                               | 3.75                  | 7.44                    | 3.5                     |
| DPS-01          | 2501 S. Broad St.        | Broadmoor                                | 2.42                  | 6.72                    | 2.19                    |
| DPS-02          | 444 N. Broad St.         | Mid City                                 | 2.20                  | 5.28                    | 2.16                    |
| DPS-03          | 2251 N. Broad St.        | 7th Ward                                 | 0.87                  | 3.12                    | 0.85                    |
| DPS-04          | 5700 Warrington Dr.      | Gentilly                                 | 0.76                  | 2.16                    | 0.75                    |
| DPS-05          | 4841 Florida Ave.        | Lower 9th Ward                           | 0.99                  | 3.60                    | 0.98                    |
| DPS-06          | 345 Orpheum              | Lakeview                                 | 3.94                  | 6.60                    | 3.45                    |
| DPS-07          | 5741 Orleans Ave.        | City Park                                | 2.83                  | 5.76                    | 2.8                     |
| DPS-10          | 9600 Hayne Blvd.         | New Orleans East - Lakefront             | 0.04                  | 0.24                    | 0.04                    |
| DPS-11          | 5301 East Sixth St.      | Lower Coast Algiers                      | 0.24                  | 1.44                    | 0.24                    |
| DPS-12          | 7223 Pontchartrain Blvd. | Lakeview                                 | 2.00                  | 7.20                    | 1.99                    |
| DPS-13          | 4201 Tall Spruce         | Algiers                                  | 0.80                  | 2.76                    | 0.8                     |
| DPS-14          | 12200 Hayne Blvd.        | New Orleans East – Lakefront             | 0.06                  | 0.36                    | 0.06                    |
| DPS-16          | 7200 Wales St.           | New Orleans East – Lakefront             | 0.06                  | 0.36                    | 0.06                    |
| DPS-17          | 2800 Florida Ave.        | St. Roch                                 | 0.96                  | 3.12                    | 0.96                    |
| DPS-19          | 4500 Florida Ave.        | Upper 9th Ward                           | 0.98                  | 3.60                    | 0.97                    |
| DPS-20          | 6300 Terminal Rd.        | New Orleans East – Intracoastal Waterway | 0.30                  | 1.32                    | 0.28                    |
| St. Joe         | 625 St Joseph St         | Central Business District                | 1.27                  | 5.88                    | 1.26                    |
| WBPC            | 1107 Pacific Street      | Algiers                                  | 0.29                  | 0.96                    | 0.28                    |
|                 |                          |                                          | MAX : 3.94            | MAX : 7.44              | MAX : 3.50              |
|                 |                          |                                          | AVG : 1.24            | AVG : 3.40              | AVG : 1.18              |

The Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) reported on multiple instances of street flooding during this event, nearly all of which were resolved by 5:00 PM. Significant street flooding was experienced in Hollygrove, Lakeview, City Park, Mid-City, and Uptown, due to the large rainfall accumulation. As noted above, the recorded rainfall accumulation in this area was 3.5 inches in an hour, which exceeds the capacity of the drainage system.

Street flooding in the Hollygrove, lower Lakeview, City Park, and Mid-City areas was exacerbated by the pump stations issues described below.

## 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 6:** F pump is out of service due to a motor bearing repair needed. RTS anticipated in the third 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 out of service as of March 2026.**

*4 additional pumps are available at this station, including two large (1000 cfs) pumps and two smaller (250 cfs) pumps*

**DPS 14:** No. 1 pump is out of service due for maintenance and motor repairs, RTS anticipated in third quarter of 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. 1 and No. 2 out of service as of February 2026 and June 2026, respectively.

*A total of 4 temporary pumps have been installed at this location.*

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.

SWBNO experienced two drainage pumping station issues that contributed to flooding in the Hollygrove, Lakeview, City Park, and Mid-City neighborhoods.

- At DPS 7, water levels were elevated for approximately 1.5 hours.
  - The pumps at this location were in service and available at the outset of the event.
  - Water levels at this station rose over 6 feet in 20 minutes, which is a substantial amount of water in a short period of time.
  - The first pump began operating as expected. While bringing the remaining two pumps online, an error was made in operating the

vacuum system. This resulted in not having any pumps online for approximately 45 minutes.

- A thorough investigation is underway to understand the sequence of events. Staff training protocols will be reviewed and enhanced as needed.
- At Pritchard Pump Station in Hollygrove, one of the two automatic pumps did not operate as intended.
  - This pump station is not regularly manned. The pumps at this location are designed to come on automatically. The station is inspected regularly and when it is expected to rain. There are two pumps at this location.
  - On Saturday, both pumps came on automatically around 1:15pm. One pump went offline at 1:30pm and had to be restarted by hand at 2:45pm.
  - This resulted in high water levels that impacted the Hollygrove neighborhood for about 2 hours.
  - As a long-term measure, SWBNO is evaluating notification systems to alert staff when automatic pumps go offline.

### **Underpass Stations:**

At UPS Old Carrollton, which services the Carrollton Ave/Interstate I-10 underpass, all three regular pumps are out of service. A temporary pump is installed at this location.

The Carrollton Underpass had to be closed during this event, even though the pump was operating normally. However, when the water levels in the Palmetto Canal are high, it is difficult to pump additional water from the underpass station.

The Marconi/City Park and Canal/I-610 underpasses experienced flooding during the event. The Canal/I-610 underpass also experiences flooding when the adjacent canal levels are elevated.

The Marconi/City Park underpass pump operated as designed throughout the event. However, debris in nearby catch basins temporarily slowed drainage at this location. Crews removed the debris to restore normal drainage.

**Power:**

Static Frequency Changers #1 and #3 were used for this event, with the Entergy substation used as the power source for the event. There were no power issues for this event.

| <b>Unit*</b>                                            | <b>Frequency</b>    | <b>Capacity in MW</b>               | <b>Available</b>            |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Static Frequency Changer #1                             | 25 Hz               | 22 MW                               | 22                          |
| Static Frequency Changer #3                             | 25 Hz               | 22 MW                               | 22                          |
| Static Frequency Changer #2                             | 25 Hz               | 22 MW                               | 22                          |
| T5                                                      | 25 Hz               | 20 MW<br>(17.5 MW revised capacity) | 0 (out of service)          |
| 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                               | 6 (FC#4 out of service)     |
| West Bank Power Complex (Algiers Water Treatment Plant) | Converts 60 to 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 via T6                          | Converts 60 to 25Hz | 3.75 MW                             | 0 MW (RTS to be determined) |
|                                                         |                     | <b>Total 25 Hz:</b>                 | <b>93 MW</b>                |
|                                                         |                     |                                     |                             |
| T6                                                      | 60 Hz               | 22 MW                               |                             |
| T7                                                      | 60 Hz               | 20 MW                               |                             |

\*Turbine 4 has been permanently removed from service.

**STAFFING**

Of New Orleans' 24 drainage pumping stations, some are staffed, some run remotely, and some are staffed as circumstances dictate.

For this event, typical staffing protocols for a rain event were initiated.

## DRAINAGE AREA REFERENCE MAPS

For a complete map, visit <https://www.swbno.org/Projects/PumpingandPower>







