



**“RE-BUILDING THE CITY’S WATER SYSTEMS FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY”**

# **Sewerage & Water Board of NEW ORLEANS**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 4, 2013

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## **S&WB Prepared for Tropical Storm Karen; All 24 Pumping Stations Tested and Working**

Marcia St. Martin, executive director of the Sewerage & Water Board of New Orleans, reported today that all systems have been tested and the Board’s 24 drainage pumping stations are 100 percent operational and ready to handle rainfall from Tropical Storm Karen.

The management and staff of the Sewerage & Water Board began its emergency planning and preparations early again this year, as it has done in the past, to be prepared should a tropical storm develop.

S&WB leaders have met with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to ensure that coordination and communications between the two are in place and tested.

Under the direction of Mrs. St. Martin, the Board’s team of emergency responders, managers, directors and crucial employees are ready to go into action.

Mrs. Martin said “We are confident that our staff is well-prepared and able to work internally with our own experts and externally with the City’s overall Office of Emergency Management, Corps of Engineers, levee districts and adjacent parishes.

“The input from those employees who experienced Katrina, Rita, Gustav, Ike and Isaac, will be invaluable resources in the event a major storm approaches.”

She concluded, “Everyone knows what to do and when to do it. Of course, our plan is flexible enough to quickly adjust to unforeseen challenges. The citizens of New Orleans can be confident that we are ready to go into action when needed.”

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