



"RE-BUILDING THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEMS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY"

Sewerage & Water Board OF NEW ORLEANS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statement Regarding Water Pressure

By Marcia St. Martin, Executive Director

The Sewerage and Water Board said a power outage at 1:10 this afternoon, likely caused by a lightning strike, shut down four pumps which distribute water from the East Bank Water Treatment plant through large mains throughout the East Bank of the City.

The Board was able, within 26 minutes, to transfer power from another source and bring one pump back into service. The other three pumps were back in service by 1:50 and pressure immediately began returning to normal throughout the City.

One facility at the East Bank Plant, the basement under an electric turbine, needed to be pumped out, but another turbine was immediately put into service while the pumping operation took place. The turbine was not damaged.

We will be reviewing the situation to determine if any changes should be made to prevent loss of power in the future. Our engineers and electrical department personnel responded quickly and well to the emergency today, restoring power and water pressure in a timely manner.