

Press Release



Construction Update: Pump Stations

For Immediate Release – December 28, 2009

The Plaquemines Parish Drainage System is near completion of a major overhaul. Once fully back online, the parish will have 16 pump stations working to keep residents dry. Repairs at nine stations have been completed. Repairs to four pump stations are expected to be completed by January 2010. Five pump stations that were severely damaged in Katrina were demolished, with four being completely rebuilt to pump the same capacity. (The Army Corps of Engineers handled the repair work and FEMA is covering the cost of the pump stations built from scratch.) An additional new pump station is under construction in the Ollie Drainage District (near Jesuit Bend).

During Hurricane Katrina the Braithwaite Drainage Pump Station, the Belair Drainage Pump Station, the Sunrise #1 Drainage Pump Station and the Gainard Woods Drainage Pump Station were completely destroyed, having been submerged at length in salt-infused and contaminated flood water. The flood water caused the equipment at the stations, including the pump motors and electrical components, to malfunction, resulting in failure of the pumps to restart once the water receded.

Although the United States Army Corps of Engineers was initially responsible for permanent repairs to the drainage pump stations, it was later determined, because they were more than 50 percent damaged, that FEMA would provide funding for their replacement.

“We realized that four of these stations were severely damaged and we wouldn’t settle for repairs when they needed to be completely rebuilt. With the help of Senator David Vitter who worked directly with us, we were able to get the Army Corps to approve complete rebuilds,” said Plaquemines Parish President Billy Nungesser.

WORK DETAILS:

Major repairs to several of Plaquemines Parish’s vital pumping stations and projects to construct several new stations are proceeding as follows:

Sunrise Pumping Station – Sunrise #1 station has been demolished to make way for a new station on this site. Currently, contractors are constructing a cofferdam to complete the demolition of the old station’s foundation. Estimated completion date for this project is March 17, 2010. Repairs to Sunrise #2 have been completed. These included:

- Replacement of the emergency generator
- Replacement of the diesel-driven and electric-driven air compressors
- Total overhaul of both drainage pumps and their gearboxes
- Rebuild on main engine PTOs
- Replacement of damaged roof panels
- Repairs to trash screens

- Replacement of site fencing

Gainard Woods Pumping Station (Home Place) – Gainard Woods #1 station has been demolished to make way for a new station on this site. The support piles and operating floor of the new elevated building are in place. Work is proceeding on the cofferdam to complete demolition of the old suction basin. Estimated completion date for this project is April 12, 2010. Repairs to Gainard Woods #2 have been completed. These included:

- Replacement of the emergency generator
- Replacement of the diesel-driven and electric-driven air compressors
- Total overhaul of both drainage pumps and their gearboxes
- Rebuild of main engine PTOs
- Replacement of damaged roof panels
- Repairs to trash screens
- Replacement of site fencing

Braithwaite Pumping Station – Braithwaite station has been demolished to make way for new station on this site. Currently, sheet piles are being driven for the temporary restraining structure associated with construction of the new station. Estimated completion date for this project is September 14, 2010.

Belair Pumping Station (Wills Point) – Belair station is slated to be demolished to make way for new station on this site. The new construction contract is now being advertised for bid, with the pre-bid meeting to be held on November 18, with bids opening at the beginning of December. Anticipated completion date is March 1, 2011.

Hayes Pumping Station (Port Sulphur) – Repairs to the Hayes station are nearly complete. Pending work includes the replacement of fuel lines and the main fuel tank. These repairs also included:

- Replacement of the diesel-driven and electric-driven air compressors
- Replacement of the diesel-driven and electric-driven vacuum pumps
- Total overhaul of both drainage pumps and their gearboxes
- Replacement of both main pump drive engines
- Repairs to building structure and replacement of damaged building panels and window shutters
- Repairs to trash screens
- Canal bank shoring with rip rap
- Replacement of site fencing

Pointe a la Hache Pumping Station – Repairs to the Pointe a la Hache station are nearly complete. Load testing of the new generator and other minor jobs related to new equipment are pending. Repairs at this station included:

- Replacement of the emergency generator
- Replacement of the diesel-driven air compressors
- Replacement of both diesel-driven vacuum pumps
- Total overhaul of both drainage pumps and their gearboxes
- Replacement of one main pump drive engine
- Rebuild of one main engine PTO
- Replacement of damaged roof panels
- Repairs to trash screens
- Replacement of site fencing

Bellevue Pumping Station (Davant) – Repairs to Bellevue station are nearly complete. Reassembly of the #2 drainage pump and main engine PTO are currently underway. Repairs at this station included:

- Total overhaul of both drainage pumps and their gearboxes
- Replacement of the emergency generator
- Replacement of the diesel-driven air compressors
- Replacement of both diesel-driven vacuum pumps
- Rebuild of main engine PTOs
- Flushing of main and auxiliary fuel systems
- Basement cleaning and sump pump replacement
- Replacement of main incoming electrical service
- Replacement of site fencing

Scarsdale Pumping Station – Repairs to Scarsdale station are nearly complete. Currently, the #2 pump and chain drive are under repair. Other repairs at this station included:

- Total overhaul of #1, #3 and #4 pumps and chain drives
- Repairs to bridge lighting
- Repairs to trash screens
- Replacement of interior heaters
- Replacement of main pump bearing lubricators
- Rebuild of main engine PTOs
- Replacement of main incoming electrical service
- Replacement of fuel transfer pumps
- Basement cleaning and sump pump replacement
- Replacement of site fencing

Diamond Pumping Station – Repairs to Diamond station have been completed. These repairs included:

- Replacement of the emergency generator
- Replacement of the diesel-driven and electric-driven air compressors
- Replacement of corroded discharge pipe sections (parish funded)
- Replacement of damaged roof panels
- Repairs to trash screens
- Site fill and grading
- Replacement of site fencing

West Pointe a la Hache Pumping Station – Repairs to the West Pointe a la Hache station have been completed. These repairs included:

- Replacement of both main pump drive diesel engines and main pump drive electric motor
- Replacement of both pump drive gearboxes
- Replacement of all exterior lighting and incoming electrical service equipment
- Repairs to fuel storage tank platform (parish funded)
- Replacement of site fencing

Duvic Canal Pumping Station (Boothville-Venice) – Repairs to Duvic Canal station have been completed. These repairs included:

- Replacement of both main pump bearing lubricators
- Replacement of the domestic water pump
- Repairs to trash screens
- Site fill and grading
- Replacement of site fencing

Bayou Grand de Liard Pumping Station (Buras-Triumph) – Repairs to Bayou Grand de Liard station have been completed. These repairs included:

- Replacement of all main pump bearing lubricators

- Replacement of the domestic water pump
- Repairs to trash screens
- Canal bank shoring with rip rap
- Site fill and grading
- Replacement of site fencing

Ollie Pumping Station (Jesuit Bend) – Repairs related to Hurricane Katrina have been completed at Ollie station. These included:

- Repairs to trash screens
- Replacement of floating trash boom

In addition, a new station is under construction at Ollie. This station, funded and planned by the parish before Hurricane Katrina, is currently 65% complete.

Belle Chasse #1 Pumping Station – Repairs to Belle Chasse #1 have been completed. These repairs included:

- Repairs to trash screens
- Replacement of windows
- Repairs to bridge lighting

Belle Chasse #2 Pumping Station – Repairs to Belle Chasse # 2 have been completed. These repairs included:

- Repairs to exterior lighting
- Repairs to door locks and roof
- Replacement of site fencing

Note: All US Army Corps of Engineers pumping station projects should be completed by the end of this year. FEMA projects completion dates are subject to change.

