

# Middlesex County Utilities Authority

## Hurricane Sandy Update

November 18, 2012

**UPDATE:** Technical Assistance was requested from the USEPA to accelerate clean up of debris and sediment deposited and discovered during the dewatering operation of the Original Sayreville Pump Station (OSPS) and Sayreville Relief Pump Station (SRPS). This assistance will improve the work to allow for the acceleration of the cleanup and activation of one 40 mgd in the OSPS. The MCUA received authorization from the NJDEP to allow a USEPA contractor to proceed with this work. The USEPA contractor continued work on the OSPS station today and it is anticipated cleaning to be completed tomorrow, with the anticipation to initiate cleaning of the SRPS on Monday. An amended Technical Assistance was submitted today to Middlesex County Office of Emergency Management to increase the time and funding to complete this work.

As of today, work was completed to increase the capacity of temporary bypass system 2, involving the replacement of a 5mgd pump with a 10mgd pump. This bypass pumping system was activated at 2:40 pm today and increases the bypass pumping capacity of all systems by 5 mgd. With all four temporary bypass pumping systems functioning, pumping capacity is presently estimated at 65-74 mgd. Optimization of all four bypass pumping systems is ongoing to achieve maximum pumping capacity of 82 mgd which is the estimated average daily flow entering the pumping station.

With most of the bypass pumping systems in place, cleanup of the Sayreville Pump Station grounds is ongoing to allow for site activities to proceed in an orderly and efficient manner for the repairs to the Original Sayreville Pump Station (OSPS) and Sayreville Relief Pump Station (SRPS).

The Edison Pump Station bypass system continues to pump 20-22 million gallons per day (mgd), which can accommodate the average daily wastewater flow that enters the station and is conveyed to the central treatment plant. In addition, the pump station was cleared of major debris from the flooding to effectuate repairs to electrical and mechanical equipment, which are ongoing. We anticipate that this station will be up and running within two weeks. This station is currently manned 24 hours a day by MCUA personnel.

MCUA met with representatives of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) from the Philadelphia District. MCUA executives and its consulting engineer discussed options available to the Authority in managing storm water flows that exceed the pump stations average daily flows. The USACE has agreed to

conduct an assessment, scope of work and cost estimate to construct Temporary Wet Weather Overflow Facilities. A kick-off meeting was held on November 10, 2012 for the exchange of information between representatives of the USACE, USEPA, NJDEP, MCUA and MCUA engineering consultants. The USACE toured the Sayreville Pump Station and potential sites for the installation temporary wet weather overflow pumps. The USACE submitted its assessment report to the MCUA which was reviewed by the MCUA and its engineering consultant. The MCUA and its engineering consultant are currently evaluating proposals received for the installation of a temporary wet weather overflow facility based upon the alternatives presented in the USACE assessment report. A meeting was held today with FEMA, USACE and MCUA representatives to discuss funding assistance for the MCUA from FEMA and the State on the emergency, intermediate and permanent work for OSPS and SRPS. In addition the meeting also served and the kick-off meeting for MCUA,s Request for Public Assistance from FEMA. Topics discussed included MCUA proceeding directly with the construction of the Temporary Wet Weather Overflow Facilities instead of USACE.

The Middlesex County Landfill will extend its operating hours over the work week, and will remain open over the weekend. The schedule is set below. There has been an increase in Landfill activity with no significant waiting time for tipping loads. Normal operation sees about 200 trucks a day, but that has gone up to over 300 trucks per day during this fallout from Hurricane Sandy. The MCUA Solid Waste Division representatives attended a MCOEM Debris Management meeting adding informed County and Local officials of the landfill extended hours of operation. The Executive Director was interviewed at the Landfill by News 12 regarding truck traffic and waste flow to the Landfill.

MCUA was informed of several water recreation activities occurring in the Washington Canal and Raritan River. The MCUA immediately upon this notification contacted Sayreville Office of Emergency Management/Sayreville Police Department to request their assistance in suspending these activities and curtailing access due to the impacts sustained by the waterways as an aftermath from Hurricane Sandy. The MCUA communicated with the Middlesex County of Emergency Management to place additional signage notifying the public to prohibit any water activities until further notice.

Service interruptions continue to be minimal for the residents that are customers of the MCUA' Participants and a majority of residents will see no impact with their wastewater service.

### **Central Wastewater Treatment Plant**

The Central Treatment Plant is fully operational and is handling all wastewater and trucked waste entering the plant in Sayreville. Currently, the Central Treatment Plant is being powered by the Landfill Gas to Energy Facility and local electric utility.

## South Amboy Pump Station

Fully operational; pumping waste to the central facility

## Edison Pump Station

Inoperable, flooded with ocean water and silt

Bypass pumping system is installed and continues to operate

Pumps will handle 20-24 million gallons per day

This bypass system will handle the average amount of wastewater that enters the station

It will take less than two weeks to repair the electrical and mechanical equipment in the station before it can be placed back into a usable condition with a least one pump. Evaluation for the replacement of the pump station HVAC system has been initiated.

The two on-site electrical generators have been inspected by the manufacture for reactivation. Auxiliary electrical components and controls are currently preventing the generators from being restarted at this time. Some of the generators components and controls were flooded during storm event. Due to the flooding of the station, the service life of all equipment in the station has been compromised.

## Sayreville Pump Station

Inoperable, flooded with ocean water and silt

First bypass pumps became operational on Sunday, Nov. 4, at 1:30 am and continue to operate conveying between 20-24 mgd of wastewater to the central treatment plant.

The second and third bypass pumping system became operational on November 11, 2012 and continues to operate.

The fourth bypass pumping system was placed into service on November 15 at 6:22 pm.

All four bypass pumping systems are up and running and are capable of conveying the current average daily flow that enters the station to the central treatment plant.

Additional modifications to the temporary bypass system have been initiated to increase pumping capacity, an additional 5mgd of pumping capacity was activated today at 2:40pm today.

It will take several weeks to dry out and repair the electrical and mechanical equipment in both stations before they can be placed back into usable condition with at least one pump.

Six of the ten pump motors have been removed and all six have been shipped off site for reconditioning.

Due to the flooding of the station, the service life of all equipment in the

station has been compromised.

**Industrial Users**

Industrial users are being asked to minimize their process wastewater flow to their respective wastewater collection systems, which then flows to the MCUA. Also, MCUA has reduced its trucked in waste rate to accommodate companies which elect to have their wastewater processed at the central treatment plant.

**FEMA, USACE, USEPA and NJDEP**

Federal and State agencies have visited the site and are fully briefed on the bypass operations of the MCUA. Both agencies are constantly monitoring the situation and have been providing whatever resources the MCUA needs.

**Middlesex County Landfill Extending Hours**

Middlesex County Landfill is fully operational and open to accept solid waste for disposal. Electric utility power was restored to the landfill on Nov. 6. The Landfill will continue to extend operating hours during the week. Below is the schedule for the Landfill in East Brunswick.

<b>Monday – November 19 through Wednesday- November 21</b>	<b>7am – 4:30 pm</b>
<b>Thursday - November 22</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Friday – November 23</b>	<b>7 am- 4:30 pm</b>
<b>Saturday – November 24</b>	<b>7am- 4:30 pm</b>

Contact Information:

Tony Cicatiello  
908.568.3280