

HV Power Outages – Potential Sewer Backup

As most residents are aware, the July 10th wind event was the area's 3rd most lengthy power outage in the past 5 years. Currently, when we lose power, our 2 sewage lift stations and treatment plant shut down. The lift station holding tanks can retain sewage/wastewater for a very limited number of hours. After that, we do face the possibility of backups into homes. Prior to switching to Papillion water in 2019, we also lost water flow from our HV well, which eliminated the possibility of residents generating sewage/wastewater. That is not the case now since our water supply is uninterrupted even during a HV-wide power outage.

Obtaining 3 generators with the capacity we need during an emergency can be difficult and we have been fortunate to date. The SID engineer is currently working with FEMA to obtain our own generators for permanent installation. Since the 2019 flood, FEMA, through it's Mitigation Program, has indicated they may reimburse the SID a portion of the purchase cost, however, not until after the generators have been purchased and installed by the SID. Initial estimates obtained by our engineer places the cost for the generators in the \$150,000 and up range. Once final plans meet FEMA's approval, the SID plans to move forward with the project and stay within our existing budget.

Until we have the dedicated generators, when extended power outages are predicted, as they have been in the past, please limit your sewage/wastewater generation as much as possible and the SID will keep you advised as soon as the lift stations and treatment plant are back on-line. Thank you for your cooperation in the past and in the future.

SID 97 Board of Trustees -7/15/2021