

# EPA Hurricane #15

## September 14, 2020

### INCIDENT OVERVIEW

EPA is working with federal and state partners to respond to the impacts of Hurricane/Tropical Storm Laura. Hurricane Laura made landfall at the southwest Louisiana coast near Cameron, Louisiana at approximately 1 am on August 27, 2020 with maximum sustained winds at 150 miles per hour (mph) and transitioned north over Cameron Parish toward north central Louisiana. According to the National Hurricane Center and Central Pacific Hurricane Center (NHCCPHC), Hurricane Laura downgraded to a Tropical Storm just across the Arkansas state line, transitioned across Arkansas to the northeast and became a Tropical Depression west-northwest of Memphis, Tennessee with storm remnants heading northeast across Kentucky.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This is the Final Management Update for Hurricane Laura. Future reporting on activities related to this event will be done through the Regional Weekly Activity Reporting (WAR) System and other normal Division/Office reporting procedures.
- EPA has received 59 National Response Center (NRC) reports in EPA's Area of Responsibility (AOR), related to Hurricane Laura. EPA received no new Hurricane Laura related calls since the last Management Report.
- An EPA representative is currently staffing the Emergency Support Function #10 (ESF #10) Desk at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Interim Operating Facility (IOF) in Baton Rouge, Louisiana until September 20, 2020.
- In Beaumont, 12 of 13 air monitors are online. The remaining site is awaiting power to be restored. Status of air monitors in Texas can be found on the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) Air Monitoring website. <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/monops/air-mon>
- The Trace Atmosphere Gas Analyzer (TAGA) bus completed its mission and was demobilized from operations on September 11, 2020.
- LDEQ has 2 of the 7 ambient air monitors back online in the Lake Charles area (Southwest & Acadiana Regions). One of the monitors previously working stopped working. Most of the off-line sites are awaiting power restoration to come online. Two monitoring locations in southeast Louisiana were suspended beginning September 13, 2020 in preparation for Hurricane Sally. The status of air monitors in Louisiana can be found on Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ)'s Air Quality website <https://www.deq.louisiana.gov/page/ambient-air-monitoring-data-reports>.

### SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS

- The EPA Region 7 Mobile Drinking Water Lab is stationed in Lake Charles and supporting State and local officials with analysis of drinking water samples for residual chlorine and bacteria. The Mobile Laboratory analyzed 30 samples on Friday, 37 samples on Saturday and 37 samples on Sunday. Results of the samples completed have

been shared with State and local Responders.

**FORCE MAJEURE**

- Total Petrochemicals and Refining USA submitted a Force Majeure notice for its facility in Port Arthur, Texas on September 9, 2020.
- Exxon Mobil submitted a Force Majeure notice for its Baytown Refinery on September 8, 2020.
- ExxonMobil submitted a Force Majeure notice for its Beaumont Refinery and Colonial Storage Beaumont facility on September 4, 2020.
- Motiva submitted a Force Majeure notice for its facility in Port Arthur, TX, on August 26, 2020.

**COORDINATION WITH STATE AGENCIES**

- EPA is coordinating with Louisiana on extension of the Mission Assignment for the Mobile Drinking Water Laboratory support.

**EPARESOURCES**

<b>Hurricane Laura - Manpower Resources 9/14/2020</b>						
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>REOC Dallas</b>	<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>FEMA Baton Rouge</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>FEMA Denton</b>	<b>Total</b>
R6	17*	1*	1*	1*	0	20
R7	0	2	0	0	0	2
TAGA	0	0	0	0	0	0
ASPECT	0	0	0	0	0	0
START	0	1*	0	0	0	1
ERRS	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Contractors	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23</b>

\*working virtually

Other contractors are part of TAGA crew.

**NATIONAL PRIORITY LIST SITES AND FACILITY ASSESSMENTS**

As of September 1, 2020, remedial assessments for the 76 National Priority List (NPL) sites within federally declared counties and parishes were completed and no further response related to Tropical Storm Marco or Hurricane Laura was required.

## DRINKING WATER /WASTEWATER ASSESSMENTS

All drinking water and wastewater assessments are being conducted and data being reported by the state in which the system is located. For drinking water systems in Louisiana information about storm related water outages, Boil Water Advisories and systems that have cleared Boil Water Advisories and returned to normal compliance can be found at <https://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/963>. Additional information regarding TCEQ's assessment of drinking water and wastewater system assessments can be found at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/hurricanes/hurricane-laura>.

### Louisiana Water Assessments

#### Drinking Water Systems in

#### Louisiana

Included Area: Acadia, Ascension, Allen, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Calcasieu, Caldwell, Cameron, Catahoula, Claiborne, Concordia, De Soto, Evangeline, Grant, Iberia, Jackson, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, La Salle, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Ouachita, Rapides, Sabine, St. Martin, St. Mary, Union, Vermilion, Vernon, Winn		
Data as of September 13, 2020 at 2:30 pm		
Data provided by LDH	# of systems	Population
Operating with no use restrictions	1203	4,822,796
Operating with use restrictions	64	248,471
Not Operating	35	13,950
Unknown	0	0
Total systems in impacted area	1304	5,085,879
Boil Water Advisory	55	N/A
Comments:		

Note: use restrictions could include boil water, do not drink, do not use, conservation measures, or other categories

#### Wastewater Systems in Louisiana

Included Area: Acadia, Ascension, Allen, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Calcasieu, Caldwell, Cameron, Catahoula, Claiborne, Concordia, De Soto, Evangeline, Grant, Iberia, Jackson, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, La Salle, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Ouachita, Rapides, Sabine, St. Martin, St. Mary, Union, Vermilion, Vernon, Winn	
Data as of September 14, 2020 10:00 am	
Data provided by LDEQ	# of systems
Operating <sup>1</sup>	106
Partially Operating <sup>2</sup>	7
Not Operating <sup>3</sup>	0
Unknown	2
Total systems in impacted area	115
Comments:	

Operating is defined as all domestic wastewater is collected, treated, and discharged or land applied at Fed/State required levels and can meet these requirements on a permanent basis in lieu of a temporary basis in response to the incident.

<sup>2</sup> Partially operating means there are issues in collection and/or treatment, but some functions are occurring. Bypasses, sanitary sewer overflows, partial treatment, unauthorized discharges, and other issues could be occurring.

<sup>3</sup> Not operating is defined as collection and/or treatment is not functioning.

Texas Water Assessments  
 Drinking Water Systems in  
 Texas

Included Area: Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, Sabine, and St. Augustine Counties		
Data as of September 14, 2020 2:00 pm		
Data provided by TCEQ	# of systems	Population
Operating with no use restrictions	137	441,579
Operating with use restrictions	23	11,407
Not Operating	4	751
Unknown	0	0
Total systems in impacted area	164	453,737
Boil Water Advisory as of 9/7/2020 2 pm	53	N/A
Comments:		

Note: use restrictions could include boil water, do not drink, do not use, conservation measures, or other categories

Wastewater Systems in Texas

Included Area: Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, Sabine, and St. Augustine Counties	
Data as of September 14, 2020 2:00 pm	
Data provided by TCEQ	# of systems
Operating <sup>1</sup>	58
Partially Operating <sup>2</sup>	0
Not Operating <sup>3</sup>	0
Unknown	0
Total systems in impacted area	58
Comments:	

<sup>1</sup> Operating is defined as all domestic wastewater is collected, treated, and discharged or land applied at Fed/State required levels and can meet these requirements on a permanent basis in lieu of a temporary basis in response to the incident.

<sup>2</sup> Partially operating means there are issues in collection and/or treatment, but some functions are occurring. Bypasses, sanitary sewer overflows, partial treatment, unauthorized discharges, and other issues could be occurring.

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**AIR MONITORING**

The TAGA bus completed all monitoring requested by the TCEQ on September 10, and demobilized back to Research Triangle Park, North Carolina on September 11, 2020.

Maps of ASPECT flights and TAGA air monitoring routes are posted on the public website, <https://response.epa.gov/hurricanelaura>.