



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**\*\*\* Official Media Statement \*\*\***

## **Niagara Falls Water Board Response to Intermittent Pump Failure at Gorge Pumping Station**

The Niagara Falls Water Board (NFWB) has experienced intermittent issues with one of three pumps at its Gorge Pumping Station following a power outage on the night of Friday, May 27, 2022. This has resulted in a quantity of stormwater and wastewater bypassing the wastewater treatment plant and discharging into the Lower Niagara River. At 6:30 p.m. on May 29, 2022 the bypass conditions ended and a bypass not anticipated to occur again while dry weather conditions prevail, with a new pump scheduled to be online to handle wet weather flows by the end of the week.

Normally there are three 500-horsepower main pumps at the Gorge Pumping Station. Typically, one or two pumps are sufficient to handle flows, and the third pump serves as a redundant backup.

The NFWB currently is engaged in a \$4.4 million capital project to rehabilitate the Gorge Pumping Station which includes replacement of all three main pumps in order to maintain reliable operating conditions. As a result, one of the three main pumps currently is out of service, with its replacement partially installed. This work is scheduled to be complete and the new pump will begin in-service testing on or about June 3, 2022.

Though two main pumps normally are sufficient for all flows, after a brief power outage on Friday, May 27, 2022, one of the two available pumps has been functioning only intermittently. NFWB operations and maintenance personnel are on site and working urgently to resolve this issue in consultation with third-party consultants. While repairs are attempted and installation of the new pump is completed, no further bypass is expected based upon the current forecast for dry weather conditions.

The NFWB will provide applicable updates as information becomes available, via [www.NFWB.org](http://www.NFWB.org).

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