



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Pump Replacement Completed at Niagara Falls Water Board Gorge Pumping Station**

Contractors for Niagara Falls Water Board (NFWB) completed the installation of a new 500-horsepower, 13-million-gallon-per-day pump at the Gorge Pumping Station and the pump was placed in service on June 1, 2022. This pump restores capacity lost when another pump failed over the past weekend. Pumping capacity is now back to normal levels. The new pump is operating reliably and has passed vibration, electrical, and other testing. The NFWB acknowledges and appreciates extraordinary efforts and overtime hours by the personnel involved in the pump replacement to accelerate the testing and startup process for the new pump, which resulted in the pump being operational on June 1 rather than June 3 as originally had been scheduled.

The NFWB had intended that replacement of all three pumps be completed more than one year ago as part of a \$4.4 million capital project to rehabilitate the Gorge Pumping Station. COVID-19 related backlogs in equipment production and delivery beyond the control of the Water Board or its contractors delayed the project. Work has been underway to install the new pumps, variable frequency drives, and associated equipment since they arrived on site in May. With installation of one new pump complete, the Gorge Pumping Station now has two functional pumps and is pumping at capacity. Work is underway to replace a second pump, with an estimated startup date of June 20, 2022, and the final pump replacement is scheduled to be fully completed by the end of July. With the NFWB's robust maintenance capabilities, the new pumps should provide reliable and consistent service into the next decade and beyond.

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