

June 19, 2001

Honorable Rodney S. Melville  
Presiding Judge, Santa Barbara Superior Court  
312-C East Cook Street  
Santa Maria, CA 93456-5369

Subject: Response to 2000-2001 Grand Jury Report on Emergency  
Power

Dear Judge Melville:

At the Santa Barbara City Council meeting of June 12, 2001, Council voted to receive the Santa Barbara County Grand Jury 2000-2001 Report on Emergency Power, pursuant to Penal Code §933.

The Santa Barbara County Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations regarding emergency power are as follows:

The Santa Barbara County Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations regarding emergency power, and the City's response to each specific Finding and Recommendation, are as follows:

**Re: Police Station (215 East Figueroa Street)**

**FINDING 6:** The Police Station is under-illuminated when on emergency power.

**RECOMMENDATION 6:** Additional light fixtures in the generator room, in hallways, bathrooms and other locations should be added to the emergency generator.

**RESPONSE:**

*Additional light fixtures in the listed areas will be installed by August 1, 2001.*

**FINDING 7:** The non-9-1-1 emergency generator is under utilized.

**RECOMMENDATION 7:** The City Public Works Department should analyze the power load on the facility's non-9-1-1 emergency generator and calculate the amount of additional load it could handle. If supported by this analysis, the modifications necessary to enable the emergency generator to supply the entire facility or as much as is warranted during emergencies should be made.

**RESPONSE:**

*The non-9-1-1 emergency generator exists to provide power for essential services. Excess generator capacity is reserved for potential future essential service needs.*

**Re: La Colina Wastewater Lift Station (4001 La Colina Road)**

**FINDING 8:** The edge of the step to the electrical pad at the La Colina Wastewater Lift Stations is not visible and could be a hazard.

**RECOMMENDATION 8:** A yellow stripe should be painted on the step to the electrical pad.

**RESPONSE:**

*A yellow stripe will be painted on the step to the electric pad by August 17, 2001.*

**FINDING 9:** The electrical backboard and supports are in bad physical shape.

**RECOMMENDATION 9:** The electrical backboard and support should be replaced.

**RESPONSE:**

*The electrical backboard and supports will be replaced by August 17, 2001.*

**Re: El Camino De La Luz Wastewater Lift Station (1901 El Camino De La Luz)**

**FINDING 10:** The vent at the top of the shaft could allow debris to flow into the pump shaft.

**RECOMMENDATION 10:** Relocate the vent to prevent debris entering the tank.

**RESPONSE:**

*Relocation of vent will be evaluated by City engineering staff by August 17, 2001. Structure may need significant modification to relocate vent.*

**FINDING 11:** Communication cable is not installed inside of electrical conduit.

**RECOMMENDATION 11:** The communication cable should be installed in a conduit for protection from damage.

**RESPONSE:**

*Communication cable will be installed in conduit by August 17, 2001.*

**Re: Tunnel Road Hydro-pneumatic Pump Station (at Tunnel Reservoir at the end of Tunnel Road)**

**FINDING 12:** The PVC conduit is not attached to the concrete pad.

**RECOMMENDATION 12:** The PVC conduit should be properly attached to the concrete pad.

**RESPONSE:**

*PVC conduit will be attached to concrete pad by August 17, 2001.*

**Re: All Wastewater Lift Stations and Water Pump Stations.**

**FINDING 13:** Fire extinguishers and first-aid kits are lacking at these facilities.

**RECOMMENDATION 13:** Public Works Department should inspect all wastewater and water pump station facilities and install fire extinguishers and first-aid kits as needed.

**RESPONSE:**

*Fire extinguishers and first aid kits will be installed as needed by August 17, 2001.*

**Re: Fire Station #2 (819 Cacique Street)**

**FINDING 14:** A UPS unit is not installed on the computer in this station.

**RECOMMENDATION 14:** Install a UPS unit on this computer.

**RESPONSE:**

*The data for all outlying Santa Barbara City Fire Stations #2-8 is stored on a network server located at Fire Station #1, 121 West Carrillo Street, Santa Barbara, CA which is supported by a UPS unit.*

**FINDING 15:** There is a 3-foot violation.

**RECOMMENDATION 15:** Correct the 3-foot violation.

**RESPONSE:**

*The 3-foot violation has been corrected. Also a memorandum has been sent to all Department personnel reminding them of the need to keep the area around or adjacent to electrical equipment clear for a distance of 3 feet.*

**Re: Fire Station #4 (19 North Ontare Road)**

**FINDING 16:** Some of the electrical panels were not labeled.

**RECOMMENDATION 16:** Label all panels in this fire station.

**RESPONSE:**

*The labeling of all panels has been completed.*

**FINDING 17:** The fire station is not 100% fed by the emergency generator as reported by the Public Works Department.

**RECOMMENDATION 17:** The City Public Works Department should analyze the power load on the facility and, if warranted, connect the entire fire station to the emergency generator.

**RESPONSE:**

*The Public Works Report of this station should have read, "All essential functions are 100% covered by the emergency generator." The power load was analyzed, and the coverage will remain the same.*

**Re: Fire Station #5 (2505 Modoc Road)**

**FINDING 18:** The edge of the back step to the station is not visible.

**RECOMMENDATION 18:** A yellow stripe should be painted on the back step to the station.

**RESPONSE:**

*A yellow stripe has been painted on the back step of the station.*

**FINDING 19:** The fuel tank that feeds the generator is not convenient to fill.

**RECOMMENDATION 19:** A larger tank that can be filled directly from the underground fuel tank or made accessible for filling from a fuel truck should replace the existing fuel tank at the generator.

**RESPONSE:**

*A replacement generator will be installed at this station by January 1, 2002, and an automatic refueling system will be included with the new unit.*

**FINDING 20:** Illumination in the generator area is inadequate.

**RECOMMENDATION 20.** Additional lighting should be installed to illuminate the generator area.

**RESPONSE:**

*One additional light will be added to area.*

**Re: Fire Station #7 (2411 Stanwood Drive)**

**FINDING 21:** A UPS unit is not installed on the computer in this station.

**RECOMMENDATION 21:** Install a UPS unit on this computer.

**RESPONSE:**

*The data for all outlying Santa Barbara City Fire Stations #2-8 is stored on a network server located at Fire Station #1, 121 West Carrillo Street, Santa Barbara, CA which is supported by a UPS unit.*

**Re: Fire Station #8 (601 Firestone Road at the Santa Barbara Airport)**

**FINDING 22:** One room was not completed during the original construction.

**RECOMMENDATION 22:** Complete the construction of the unfinished room.

**RESPONSE:**

*This room was constructed for the future when the need arises for a fourth Firefighter to be assigned to the ARFF station. In the interim, the room is to be used for storage only. The room will be finished with the appropriate fixtures at that time a fourth Firefighter position is added.*

**Re: All Santa Barbara City Fire Stations**

**FINDING 23:** The 3-foot rule is violated at several fire stations throughout the City of Santa Barbara.

**RECOMMENDATION 23:** Inspect all fire stations through the city and correct all 3-foot rule violations. A yellow stripe should be painted on the floor directly in front of all electrical equipment to remind personnel not to store items there.

**RESPONSE:**

*A memo was sent to all Fire Department personnel reminding them of the 30-foot rule around and adjacent to electrical equipment. Additionally, a yellow stripe will be provided for said equipment.*

**Re: P-300 Building 255 (Administration Building)**

**FINDING 24:** The facility has a manual transfer switch.

**RECOMMENDATION 24:** Install an automatic transfer switch to the system to have a smooth transfer of emergency power.

**RESPONSE:**

*The recommendation requires further analysis to determine if an automatic transfer switch can be installed on the temporary generator and if so, how much it will cost. If an*

*automatic transfer switch can be installed on the temporary generator, a cost benefit analysis will be conducted to determine the course of action.*

**Re: P-400 Building 114 (Security Building)**

**FINDING 25:** The security console and monitors that observe the main terminal and tarmac are outdated.

**RECOMMENDATION 25:** The console and monitors should be replaced with updated equipment.

**RESPONSE:**

*The security console and monitors meet the Airport's functional security requirements. They meet the requirements of the Federal Aviation Regulations Part 10 - Airport security. They have been inspected by the Federal Aviation Administration as a critical part of our security system and found to be sufficient. Both the console and monitors are maintained and/or replaced as necessary to ensure the Airport maintains the level of security required by the Airport's Security Plan, which is approved by the Federal Aviation Administration. The replacement of the system is planned as part of the City's Capital Program development.*

**FINDING 26:** The facility (Security Building) has a manual transfer switch.

**RECOMMENDATION 26:** Install an automatic transfer switch to the system to have a smooth transfer of emergency power.

**RESPONSE:**

*The Security Operations Center has an uninterruptible power supply that is automatically activated when primary power fails. This battery powered emergency power will keep the SOC powered for approximately one hour during peak midday electrical drain on the system, and approximately 3-4 hours during late night periods.*

*The emergency power generator, which is a portable generator permanently stationed at the SOC, does require manual switchover. However, the initial switch to emergency UPS power is automatic. The purchase of automatic switchgear for this generator will require the same cost benefit analysis as noted for the Airport Administration Building. Airport Patrol will be trained to activate the emergency power to reduce the need for Maintenance Personnel response.*

Response to Grand Jury 2000-2001 Report on Emergency Power  
June 19, 2001  
Page 8 of 8

In closing, I would like to thank the members of the Grand Jury for their conscientious effort and very thoughtful analysis regarding the City's emergency power needs and resources.

Sincerely,

Harriet Miller  
Mayor

HM/PKW/rh

Enclosure: 3.5" disk

cc: Sandra Tripp-Jones, City Administrator  
Peter K. Wilson, Deputy City Administrator  
Joan Kent, Assistant City Administrator  
Warner R. McGrew, Fire Chief  
Camerino Sanchez, Police Chief