

Emergency Generator Update:

If and when PG&E shuts power off to our area, HVLCSO requests that all nonessential water use is discontinued. This means no out door watering. By implementing this water saving measure, the District has enough water stored in its tanks to last three (3) days with normal indoor usage.

To be fully self-sufficient during such outages and operate normally, HVLCSO would need four stand alone generators.

HVLCSO currently has one 250KW trailer mounted generator which we use for power related issues.

HVLCSO is a member of CalWARN (<http://www.calwarn.org/>).

“The CalWARN Mission: The mission of the California Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (CalWARN) is to support and promote statewide emergency preparedness, disaster response, and mutual assistance processes for public and private water and wastewater utilities...”

As a member of CalWARN, HVLCSO has already notified the member agencies of the impending need for additional temporary generators to weather PG&E outages. These generators can be in place in a matter of hours, keeping our system fully operational.

As a backup, HVLCSO has partnered with a local nonprofit that has offered a second 250KW generator if the need should arise. Finally, HVLCSO has a contract with a rental company to provide trailer mounted generators for full system operation, should the need arise.

The Long-Term Solution: Last year, HVLCSO started the process of drafting its own Hazard Mitigation Plan with the State of California. Once approved, this will make HVLCSO eligible for financial assistance through FEMA and CalOES. This is important because it can pay for as much as 75% of the emergency generators leaving the remaining 25% to be paid for by our constituents through water rates.

For a deeper dive into the cost of generators, auto transfer switches, SCADA needs and generator fuel storage, please contact the District at (707) 987-9201.

Sanitary Sewer: The sanitary sewer system has eight sewer lift stations that already have emergency generators at each location. Additionally, the Region Water Reclamation Facility (RWRF), aka the sewer treatment plant, is powered by solar and has an emergency backup generator on site. This is extremely important so HVLCSO can ensure that sewage does not overflow into the environment, becoming a public health hazard.

Important Note: If you are connected to the District sewer system **AND** have a **residential sewer pump** to send the sewage from your house to the sewer main in the street, you will need to provide power to that pump so sewage does not backup into you home or overflow your holding tank. A residential generator **OR** small camping generator will work. You may also choose to purchase an inverter (sized for the load your pump requires) that you can connect to your car battery and plug your residential pump into as needed. If this is an option you are looking at, make sure your car is running before starting the pump so you don't drain your car battery. Please review [Residential Generator Safety](#) tips.