



CITY OF KENNER

News Release

E. "BEN" ZAHN III
MAYOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 21, 2018

UPDATE ON POWER POLE ACCIDENT AND FIRE

Kenner, LA. – The power outage has increased to more than 1,700 residences and commercial properties as fire crews from Jefferson Parish East Bank Consolidated and Third District Volunteer Fire Department are assisting the Kenner Fire Department fight the ongoing blazes at two commercial properties at Loyola Drive and West Esplanade Avenue.

Entergy has restored power to the large majority of customers north of West Esplanade, including Ochsner Hospital. Approximately 850 customers remain without power between Interstate 10 and mainly south of West. Esplanade.

As a result of the 18-wheeler striking the transformer pole, there is also a pool of oil fueling the flames. Entergy will contact the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, if needed. Louisiana State Police's HazMat unit has been notified, in accordance with any hazardous material releases/spills.

There are numerous power poles down on Loyola Drive, making the roadway impassible. The early estimates for Entergy to restore power to this area may be updated once the fires are extinguished.

Additional fire units have been requested to assist in containing and extinguishing the flames to two centralized areas of both businesses as well as to begin roof access. Currently, there are eight fire apparatus on scene from the three departments, with Jefferson Parish East Bank Consolidated sending two additional crews to assist with personnel on the attack. In addition, the City of Kenner's Code Enforcement is on site as is the Office of Emergency Management, Kenner Police Department and Mayor Ben Zahn.

Two first responders are receiving treatment by East Jefferson EMS at this time.

Fire crews are working the interior of the locations of the two business on fire, in addition to water attacks from the roof.

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For the safety of first responders trying to access the area, the public is asked to use other roads to travel around this area.

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