



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS NEWS RELEASE

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WAPA Governing Board Approves Leadership Selections

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS (December 6, 2024) – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (“WAPA” or the “Authority”) is pleased to announce the selection of Lemuel Lavinier as Chief Operating Officer of Electric and Lorraine Kelly as Chief Financial Officer. These selections, approved during today’s special Governing Board meeting, mark a significant step in strengthening WAPA’s leadership team as it advances toward enhanced operational efficiency and financial sustainability.

Lemuel Lavinier, Chief Operating Officer of Electric

Mr. Lavinier brings over 22 years of expertise in power system operations, construction, and sustainable energy management. He joins WAPA from his role as Superintendent of Electric Power for the City of Orangeburg Department of Public Utilities in South Carolina, where he implemented innovative solutions in substation maintenance and renewable energy systems. A seasoned professional, Lavinier currently serves as a member of the board of Dominica Electricity Services Limited (DOMLEC). His strategic focus and dedication to operational excellence are expected to drive significant improvements in WAPA’s electric operations.

Lorraine Kelly, Chief Financial Officer

Ms. Kelly, who has served as Interim CFO since December 2023, now assumes the role of CFO, bringing decades of experience in financial leadership within utilities, logistics, and Fortune 500 companies. Known for her expertise in financial turnaround, strategic planning, and risk management, Kelly has played a pivotal role in enhancing WAPA’s financial transparency and stability during her interim tenure. Her visionary leadership and comprehensive approach to fiscal management will continue to support WAPA’s mission to deliver reliable services to the community.

WAPA Executive Director/CEO Karl Knight welcomed the selections, stating, “These two leaders bring a wealth of experience and a shared dedication to operational and financial excellence. They will serve critical roles on WAPA’s leadership team. We are confident that their expertise will accelerate the Authority’s goals to enhance service delivery and achieve long-term sustainability.”

The Board commends both leaders for their dedication to innovation, teamwork, and excellence and looks forward to their contributions in their respective roles.

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About WAPA: The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority is an autonomous agency of the Virgin Islands Government which produces and distributes electricity and drinking water to residential and commercial customers in the territory. WAPA was created by the Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands in 1964 through Act No. 1248. Today, WAPA generates electrical power at production plants on St. Thomas and St. Croix and distributes electrical service through smart grids to customers on St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John, Hassel Island, and Water Island. Potable water is distributed to almost 13,000 customers through water lines and standpipes. WAPA also has the responsibility of installing and maintaining streetlights.