



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY
CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS
NEWS RELEASE

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WAPA Secures Solution to Prevent Rolling Territory-wide Blackouts

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (“WAPA” or “Authority”) is pleased to announce successful arrangement of a shipment of diesel enabling normal power production at the Randolph Harley Power Plant and the Richmond Power Plant.

Due to the shift of operations to 100% diesel, there will be sole reliance on the older generation units which may result in a reduction in reliability. The Aggrekos and Wartsilas, the newer generators, will not be in operation due to their need for propane. As the older generation units in operation are overdue for maintenance, this may add to its unreliability upon the transition.

The Authority asks for the community’s understanding during this transition as all attempts are being made to ensure there are no territory-wide rolling blackouts and that our most vulnerable communities are prioritized.

Open, transparent communication continues to be of utmost importance for WAPA as it rebuilds trust with the community. To stay updated on outages, please sign up for text outages on our website and/or visit our “Alerts” page at <https://www.viwapa.vi/news-information/advisory-details>.

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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.

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