



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY
CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS
CEO PRESS STATEMENT

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CEO Smith Responds to HUD Approval regarding the VITOL Acquisition



Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director Andrew Smith of the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority

I want to thank the Office of the Governor, the Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority and the 35th Legislature for their support in this milestone towards the acquisition of the VITOL propane infrastructure. I would also like to thank our federal partners for their engagement and support.

I commend our team for their exceptional dedication and diligent efforts in reaching a significant phase in our strategic plan, bringing the Authority one step closer to financial stability.

This acquisition is monumental for the future of energy resilience in the territory. Acquiring the propane supply infrastructure will improve fuel resiliency because it will allow WAPA to maintain access to two fuels, propane and diesel, and double the amount of fuel storage in the territory. As part of WAPA's mission of protecting our pristine environment, it will also ensure continued availability of WAPA's most modern, clean, and efficient generation which operate on propane.

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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.