



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS NEWS RELEASE

Jean P. Greaux, Jr.
Director of Corporate Communications
(340) 774-3552 ext. 2147 or (340) 244-7330
communications@viwapa.vi / www.viwapa.vi

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ELECTRICAL SERVICE RESTORED TO ALL CUSTOMERS ON ST. THOMAS & ST. JOHN SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT FOLLOWING MAJOR SERVICE INTERRUPTION

An electrical fault on a distribution feeder and operational challenges with two generating units resulted in a major electrical service interruption affecting customers in the St. Thomas - St. John district Sunday night.

Shortly before 7:30 p.m., a high magnitude fault on Feeder 6A, inside the Randolph Harley Power Plant, resulted in four of the five dispatched generating units tripping off-line which cascaded to the loss of all but two distribution feeders. As part of a protection system, when a major upset or electrical fault occurs, the generators are designed to trip offline to head off major damage to the units and to the power plant.

Most customers on the islands of St. Thomas, St. John, Hassel Island and Water Island were affected last night.

For the next several hours, plant personnel worked to resolve operational issues with two generators, Units 15 and 23, while Line Department personnel made repairs to the damaged equipment on Feeder 6A.

At 12:25 a.m. Monday, with two generators online, electrical service was restored to all customers.

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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.