



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY
CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS
NEWS RELEASE

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WAPA Board Takes Action to Support Infrastructure Progress and Operational Stability

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS (January 22, 2026) – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Governing Board approved a series of actions today aimed at advancing critical infrastructure projects, strengthening financial stability, and accelerating improvements customers will see and feel across the territory.

At the heart of today’s approvals is momentum. The Board authorized amendments that ensure uninterrupted access to materials for ongoing hazardous mitigation and composite pole projects—work that directly supports a stronger, more resilient electrical grid. By allowing flexibility to account for potential tariff impacts and extending project timelines where needed, WAPA is protecting progress already underway and avoiding costly delays that could affect service reliability for customers.

On St. Croix, the Board approved adjustments to the Queen Mary Highway Phase I Electrical Underground Duct Bank Project that respond to real-world field conditions while keeping safety, environmental responsibility, and long-term performance front and center. These changes protect mature trees, reduce risky elevated work, improve maintenance access, and ensure infrastructure meets current standards—decisions that prioritize both community impact and system durability.

To maintain operational stability, the Board also approved extensions of existing lines of credit with local banking partners. These no-cost extensions allow WAPA to continue meeting day-to-day operational needs while longer-term financial strategies and reviews move forward, ensuring continuity of service for water and electric customers throughout the territory.

“The Board’s actions today reflect WAPA’s continued focus on strengthening our infrastructure while managing our finances responsibly,” said CEO Karl Knight. “From advancing underground power projects that improve resiliency and reduce outages, to maintaining the financial flexibility needed to support ongoing operations, we are positioning the Authority for long-term stability.”

Today's approvals underscore a simple promise: keeping projects moving, modernizing service, and making decisions that protect customers now while building a stronger, more reliable WAPA for the future.

The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Communication's department is committed to reaching, informing, and connecting with the youngest members of the community to the eldest, through meaningful, transparent and effective communication.

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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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