



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS NEWS RELEASE

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WAPA Addresses Cause of District-Wide Power Outage in St. Thomas–St. John District

ST. THOMAS, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS (Sept. 3, 2025) – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (“WAPA” or “the Authority”) is advising the community of the cause and ongoing restoration efforts related to this evening’s power outage affecting customers across the St. Thomas–St. John district.

At approximately 4:46 p.m., a failure at the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) terminal resulted in an underfrequency event that caused several feeders on St. Thomas and St. John to lose power. This event is a safety mechanism to protect the grid from collapsing and to quickly reduce demand and stabilize the frequency. While crews worked to stabilize operations, Unit 15 was restarted as part of the recovery process. During the restart, smoke was released and visibly observed at the Randolph Harley Power Plant at approximately 5:30 p.m. WAPA confirms that there was no fire at the facility.

Saintnals, the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) contractor, has been working continuously to restore functionality at the LPG terminal, enabling generation units to be returned online to restore service to all customers. As of approximately 8:40 p.m., several feeders are being restored, and real-time updates on restoration can be found at WAPA’s Outage Map at <https://www.viwapa.vi>.

WAPA understands the inconvenience and concern this outage has caused and assures the public that every effort is being made to safely and promptly restore power.

The Authority thanks customers for their patience and understanding as we work to stabilize the system and restore reliable service.

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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.