



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS NEWS RELEASE

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WAPA Contractor Commences Manhole Inspections on Emancipation Dr for Feeder 8B Underground Electrical Project

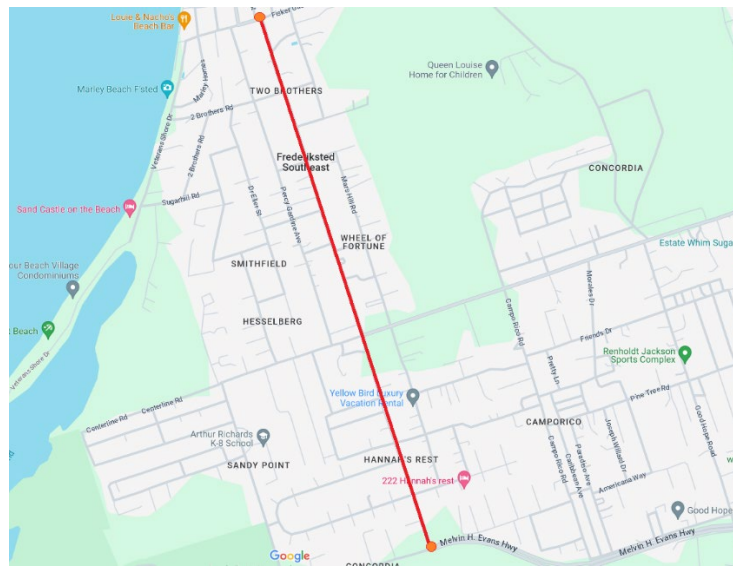


Fig 1. Affected area along Emancipation Dr./Hannah's Rest Road from Melvin. H. Evans into Frederiksted town beginning today through Friday.

ST. CROIX, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (“WAPA” or “Authority”) announces that today, Haugland VI, WAPA’s contractor, has commenced manhole inspections on Emancipation Drive (Hannah’s Rest Road). This work is a preparatory step for the installation of electrical cables as part of the Feeder 8B Underground Electrical Project in Frederiksted, St. Croix.

Due to water-filled manholes, the inspection process is taking longer than initially anticipated, with each manhole requiring approximately 1-2 hours to pump out and inspect. The inspections are causing temporary single-lane closures to manage traffic safely, with only short spans of the road affected at any given time. Please see map above for visual of the impacted area where the inspections are occurring.

The project begins at the Melvin Evans Highway and is progressing north towards Frederiksted town. This phase of the project will continue through to approximately Friday, May 24, 2024. Inspections will start as early as 7:00a.m. each day.

During this period, no power outages are expected as part of this project.

The Authority appreciates the community's patience and cooperation as we work to enhance our electrical infrastructure. Please drive with caution in the impacted areas and follow the directions of flaggers and traffic management personnel.

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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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