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Limetree Bay Says It Has Activated Coronavirus Plan Following Confirmation of First Case in Refinery

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Limetree Bay By. ERNICE GILBERT/ VI CONSORTIUM

ST. CROIX — The executive management of Limetree Bay Refining, LLC and Limetree Bay Terminals, LLC said Monday that the company has activated its Incident Command structure as the next step in its COVID-19 emergency response plan, after receiving notification from the V.I. Department of Health that a resident of the Limetree Bay Village (referred to as the man camp), [tested positive for the virus](#).

The individual was a suspected case — called Persons Under Investigation — and was quarantined prior to being tested.

In preparation for the COVID-19 pandemic, Limetree Bay said it has designated a 30-person quarantine facility apart from the Village housing, and developed a plan to include meal delivery, and regular sanitation of the facility. Limetree said it had previously implemented personnel guidelines to restrict business travel, implemented social distancing practices, which include removing dining areas, holding meetings via teleconference and implementing work from home options for employees.

The refinery said it requires all its contractors and employees to complete medical screening before returning to work from leave to include vacation and sick leave. "Limetree continuously educates employees and contractors on what to do in the event they suspect they have been exposed to COVID-19," the refinery said.

"The health and safety of our staff, as well as the community, remains a top priority for Limetree and we will continue to take the necessary steps to slow the spread of COVID- 19 within our facility and our community," said Limetree Bay President and CEO Brian Lever.

Individuals who were in contact with the person of interest at the Village have been identified and quarantined in line with the Dept. of Health's guidelines.

"Limetree Bay recognizes that this is a difficult time for the community and we will remain vigilant in our efforts to protect and support our employees, their families and our community," the refinery said.