

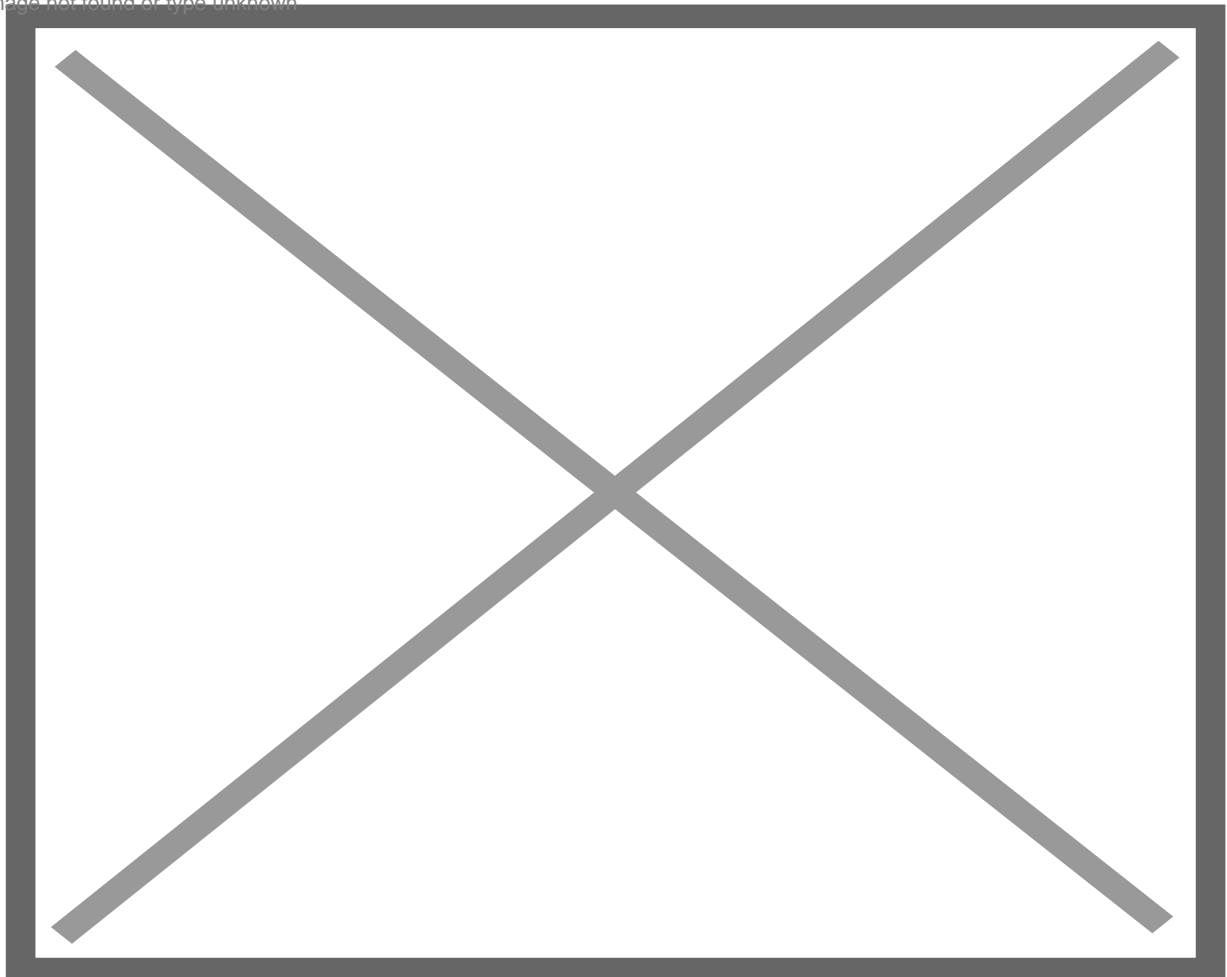
## WAPA Offers Payment Assistance to Federal Employees Affected by Government Shutdown

**As the federal shutdown strains household finances across the territory, WAPA is encouraging affected federal employees to visit its customer service offices for assistance and flexible payment arrangements during the disruption.**

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The V.I. Water and Power Authority has announced a customer relief initiative for federal employees struggling to meet utility payments as the ongoing government shutdown continues to cause financial strain across the territory.

Acknowledging the economic hardship caused by the federal impasse in Washington, WAPA said it recognizes that many Virgin Islanders have been directly affected through no fault of their own.

“At the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority, we recognize that the ongoing federal government shutdown—caused by political gridlock in Washington—has created serious hardship for many hardworking Virgin Islanders,” the statement read.

“We understand that these circumstances are beyond your control, and we want to assure you that our community stands with you during this period of financial uncertainty,” the utility added.

To assist those impacted, WAPA is urging federal employees who are experiencing difficulty paying their utility bills to visit any of its Customer Service offices across the territory. The agency said its representatives are prepared to “listen and work with you to make appropriate arrangements during this challenging time.”

In its message, the utility emphasized solidarity with residents affected by the shutdown, noting that the situation underscores the importance of community support. “We appreciate your continued commitment to our community, and we’re here to support you,” WAPA said.

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