

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Power To Be Fully Restored On St. Croix Tonight, WAPA Says

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ST. CROIX -- Parts of St. Croix are already beginning to come online after an all day power blackout that affected the island, and according to the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority's (WAPA) Director of Corporate Communications Jean Greaux, all of St. Croix should be fully restored by tonight.

It was only an hour earlier that WAPA issued a press release stating that it expected the restoration process to begin tonight, so Greaux's confirmation to *VI Consortium* only strengthened the company's position.

"The efforts continue by personnel at the Estate Richmond power plant on St. Croix to restore power to the island following this morning's power surge which tripped all generators and resulted in an island wide power service interruption. WAPA personnel anticipates restoring power across the island by tonight," WAPA said.

The release also made known that throughout the day, WAPA crews worked tirelessly to rectify what caused the power outage, which WAPA said was a grounding fault with a breaker circuit that prevented a tie in of the power generators to the feeders."

WAPA explained further: "A tie in of the generators to the feeders is needed to successfully transmit electricity from the plant to the electrical distribution system and to WAPA's customers."

The semi-autonomous entity said it would first restore power to the planet itself, then to the Juan F. Luis Hospital and Medical Center, followed by a gradually process until the island is fully restored.

Greaux said WAPA Chief Executive Hugo Hodge, Jr., will be hosting a conference to explain to the media the exact occurrence at the Christiansted plant today.

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