

The Virgin Islands Consortium

W.A.P.A. Restores Power To St. Thomas-St. John District Following Sunday's Island-Wide Blackout

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ST. THOMAS -- The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority restored electric service to the St. Thomas-St. John district around 2:30 a.m. Monday after the successful restart of the authority's largest generating unit, Unit 23, as well as Unit 25.

The restoration followed a Sunday night incident where an apparent surge entered the Randolph Harley Power Plant, tripped Unit 23, two other generating units and caused a service interruption to all feeders in the district, according to a press release the semiautonomous entity issued early Monday. W.A.P.A. says its personnel are investigating the cause of the surge. Line crews are now patrolling Feeder 10A to determine the cause of a fault which became evident during earlier attempts to restore

service to the feeder.

With the successful restoration of Unit 23 and successful start-up of Unit 25, restoration began at 2:22 a.m.

W.A.P.A. Interim Chief Executive Officer Julio Rhymer Sr. apologized to the public for the inconvenience caused by Sunday's electric power service interruption. He also thanked the men and women of the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority, many of whom were off duty but reported to the power plant Sunday night as news of the island wide service interruption spread.

"I am proud of the efforts of the authority's employees who worked tirelessly to restore power in both a safe and efficient manner," Mr. Rhymer said.

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