

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Failure Of WAPA Generating Unit On St. Thomas Causes Power Interruptions On Wednesday And Rotations On Thursday, WAPA Says

Community Center / **Published On March 23, 2018 11:43 AM /**

Staff **March 23, 2018**



ST. THOMAS -- Mechanical issues with a cooling system of WAPA's generating Unit 14 are responsible for a Wednesday night service interruption on St. Thomas, and for the implementation of an emergency electrical rotation schedule that lasted for several hours on Thursday, WAPA has announced. The authority said repairs on the unit commenced last night and continued throughout the day on Thursday. Plant personnel successfully restored the unit at mid-afternoon today, facilitating the restoration of service to all customers.

On Wednesday night, electrical service was restored to all customers with two remaining generators dispatched however, by mid-morning Thursday, the demand for electrical service exceeded the available generation capacity. At 9:45 a.m., WAPA commenced an hourly rotation of service, taking an electrical feeder off-line, one hour at a time, the utility said. Additionally, two large commercial customers came off the grid to allow the power plant to utilize its limited generation capacity to maintain electric service to critical facilities and residential customers.

Unit 25, one of two leased generators, is undergoing a scheduled maintenance regimen and will not be available until Friday. Three other generating units 14, 15 and 26 are now on-line.

© Viconsortium 2026