

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Power Restored To St. John Following Transformer Fire On Wednesday

Community Center / **Published On April 06, 2018 08:22 AM /**

Staff **April 06, 2018**



ST. JOHN -- WAPA personnel has successfully restored electrical service to customers on St. John, 24 hours after a power transformer immediately outside of WAPA's electrical substation caught fire, resulting in the island being left without electrical service.

The restoration of service followed a daylong effort to ensure that, although smoke had entered the substation, there was no damage to equipment that would have prevented service from being restored, WAPA said. Crews worked through the day to clean electrical equipment of soot and residue while preparing the substation to be energized. By 6 p.m. Thursday evening, procedures were underway to reenergize the submarine cables that provide electrical service from St. Thomas to St. John, and restoring the

substation. The island's two feeders, 7E and 9E, were then restored bringing electrical service to residents across the island, the utility said.

"Once again, I thank the community of St. John for their patience in the aftermath of last night's transformer fire which prevented WAPA from immediately restoring service. I also thank the men and women of WAPA, many of whom worked into the early morning hours of today, and returned a few hours later to begin the process of assessing any damage to the substation, making repairs, and finalizing preparations to restore our customers," said Executive Director Lawrence Kupfer. "The efforts of these employees and the plant personnel who recovered from a district-wide service interruption on Wednesday are appreciated by me, their colleagues at the Authority, and our Virgin Islands community."

© Viconsortium 2026