

The Virgin Islands Consortium

WAPA Contractors Get Authorization To Spend Up To \$10 Million In Ongoing Electric Grid Hardening Material Purchases

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The governing board of the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority on Tuesday approved modifications to three items it had previously approved at a meeting on February 21, WAPA made known via release Tuesday.

The board approved changes to a credit facility reimbursement note, and to the terms of two lines of credit with Banco Popular for working capital for the water system, and capital projects for the electric system.

Also approved were addendums to existing contracts with Haugland Energy and BBC Electrical Services. Both companies were previously approved to purchase materials on WAPA's behalf for continued permanent repairs to the electric grid. Today's action by the board increases the procurement authorization from \$200,000 to \$5 million per contractor. The increased authorization allows both contractors, at the Authority's request, to purchase composite poles in addition to other materials and supplies. The procurement of supplies through the two contractors would only occur if WAPA is unable to provide the materials due to logistical or other factors.

"This procurement authorization would ensure a constant supply of materials to prevent workflow interruption and ensure that the ongoing work remains on schedule," said Executive Director / CEO Lawrence J. Kupfer.

All votes at today's emergency meeting were unanimous.

Board members in attendance included: Chairwoman Elizabeth Armstrong, Vice Chairman Hubert Turnbull, Secretary Juanita Young, Gerald T. Groner, Noel Loftus, and Cheryl Boynes Jackson.