

VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER AND POWER AUTHORITY

Office of the Executive Director

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November 8, 2023

Senator Kenneth L. Gittens Legislature of the Virgin Islands 3022 Estate Golden Rock St. Croix, V.I. 00820

SENT VIA EMAIL: senatorgittens@legvi.org

Dear Chairman Gittens.

Thank you for the invitation to testify at the Committee on Homeland Security, Justice & Public Safety hearing scheduled for 10:00 am, Thursday, November 9, 2023, in the Cleone H. Creque Legislative Conference Room on the island of St. John.

I would like to offer my sincere apologies on behalf of the Authority for not being able to attend the session. Unfortunately, circumstances would have it that due to personal relations off-island, my Chief Information Officer, who appeared before the Committee when it originally convened to receive testimony, is unable to attend in-person. However, I want to express my support for the proposed amendments that are under discussion.

I also want to extend gratitude to this honorable body for listening to the concerns raised during the previous session. It's evident that the dedication to address the needs and voices of the constituents is greatly appreciated.

Additionally, we request that as these amendments are considered, due consideration is given to union contracts that contain stipulations related to employment termination. It's essential to balance the rights and protections outlined in these contracts while also achieving the goals of Bill No. 35-0086.

Thank you for your understanding and for representing the interest of the people.

Sincerely,

Andrew Smith

Chief Executive Officer