



VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER AND POWER AUTHORITY

April 16, 2025

The Honorable Senator Avery L. Lewis
36th Legislature
Post Office Box 1690
Capital Building
Charlotte Amalie, VI 00801

Dear Honorable Senator Avery L. Lewis,

I hope this correspondence meets you in good health. This letter contains the responses to the requests for information through the Chair on March 24, 2025, at the Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affair, Consumer Protection legislative hearing.

Senator Carla Joseph asked for the details on the accounts payable. The attached document “#2 accounts payable” contains the information on WAPA’s accounts payable.

Senator Carla Joseph asked to provide a copy of the contract for the Municipal Adviser, Sustainable Capital Advisors, LLC. The attached document “#3 Sustainable Capital Advisors, LLC” contains the requested contract.

Senator Carla Joseph asked the cost of the battery energy storage system (BESS) at the Randolph Harley Power plant. The 9MW BESS at Randolph Harley Power plant cost \$12,253,956.

Senator Angel Bolques asked to provide the accounts receivable for RLSH and Waste Management. The attached document “#5 Accounts receivables for RLSH and Waste Management” contains the requested information.

Senator Angel Bolques requested the balance of WAPA’s Generating and Infrastructure Fund. The fund is fully utilized for debt services on the Wartsila Phase I units. The fund is managed by the Department of Finance and further inquiries would be best directed to Commissioner McCurdy.

Senator Kenneth Gittens asked how much was spent for the initial AMI system. The total amount expended is \$10,116,863.00. The system is still active with approximately 60% of our meters read remotely.

The request by Senator Avery Lewis regarding the estimated cost of adding streetlights from UVI to Raphune Hill will take a few more weeks. We can provide that information at the end of April.

Senator Franklin Johnson requested information on the status of the company that received funds to install solar streetlights. The Petra Streetlight Project, launched in 2016 to upgrade the US Virgin Islands' streetlights, faced numerous deficiencies. Despite Petra's initial promises of quick re-mobilization,

progress slowed drastically, exacerbated by the hurricanes in 2017. Petra's cash-flow issues and operational mismanagement led to incomplete installations and significant over-claims. Petra's inability to procure necessary materials, pay subcontractors, and manage logistics effectively led the Authority to initiate action for breach of contract. After a mediation impasse, a favorable resolution was reached before arbitration, securing \$2.225 million for WAPA and the release of materials valued just under \$5 million.

Senator Franklin Johnson asked for a water lost assessment. The Water and Power Authority has engaged a water audit consultant to perform a line loss audit of the water distribution system. The audit kick-off was March 20, 2025, with a training session of WAPA employees on the audit procedures; and the audit has a five-month schedule (August 2025). Upon receipt of the audit report, a copy will be furnished to the committee.

If you require any other information, please feel free to contact me.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Karl Knight', is written over the printed name and title.

Karl Knight

CEO/Executive Director

Virgin Islands Water & Power Authority