



VIRGIN ISLANDS
**WATER
AND POWER
AUTHORITY**

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March 15, 2024

Jean-Pierre L. Oriol, Commissioner
Department of Planning and Natural Resources
Charles W. Turnbull Regional Library
4607 TuTu Park Mall
St. Thomas, VI 00802

Re: Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Request for Coastal Consistency for the VITEMA Underground Electrical Project, St. Croix

Dear Commissioner Oriol:

The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (VIWAPA) respectfully request a Decision of Coastal Consistency for their VITEMA Underground Electrical Project on St. Croix. VIWAPA is proposing the burial of utility lines from Queen Mary Highway along Estate Herman Hill Road to VITEMA Road to the renovated VITEMA Headquarters. The purpose of the project is to provide improved electrical power resilience to this critical infrastructure and residents on the island of St. Croix.

The Authority proposes the installation of an underground distribution lateral line with manholes, pad-mount transformers, and other underground devices to replace the existing overhead distribution line feeding the VITEMA Headquarters as well as the homes and condominiums located along Estate Herman Hill Road. Funding for this project is provided in part by FEMA and the Department of Housing & Urban Development Community Development Block Grant Program under the auspices of the Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority ("VIHFA").

The proposed project would begin as soon as the Coastal Consistency approval is granted as all other permits and approvals are in place. The project will take a total of 7 to 10 months to complete.

Attached please find a Project Summary demonstrating the project's compliance with the U.S. Virgin Islands Coastal Zone Management Program, and drawings of the proposed project. VI WAPA proposes to develop an Archaeological Scope of Work with VI SHPO for this project.

We look forward to your earliest decision on this manner.

Sincerely,

Cordell Jacobs

Cordell Jacobs, Jr.
Interim Director of Transmission and Distribution