GOVERNMENT OF THE
VIRGIN ISLANDS
Ministry of Communications
and Works

Statement by the Honourable Kye M. Rymer
Minister for Communications and Works
29th September 2026
Access to Potable Water for Residents of Jost Van Dyke

As Minister for Communication and Works, I acknowledge the concerns raised regarding residents' access to potable water on Jost Van Dyke and I wish to clarify the circumstances.

Water production has never been the challenge on Jost Van Dyke. The disruption occurred between the treatment plant and the reservoir, where a leak developed and required troubleshooting by the technical team from the Water and Sewerage Department. As an interim measure, water was pumped directly through the distribution line. However, that line also developed leaks due to the age of the infrastructure, resulting in a temporary interruption to regular water distribution.

I am pleased to restate that the issue has since been rectified. During a community meeting held on Wednesday, 8 July 2026, residents agreed that constructing a

standpipe would provide a dependable alternative and help ensure access to water during any future interruptions.

In keeping with that agreement, potable water is now available for purchase from the standpipe located in the vicinity of the Water and Sewerage Department, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Residents wishing to use the service should contact the department at 1 (284) 468-9429. A representative will record the meter information, issue an invoice, and process payment in accordance with the department's billing procedures.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the residents of Jost Van Dyke for their patience and cooperation as the Ministry of Communication and Works continues to improve the reliability and resilience of the water-distribution system.