

How many solar energy systems are installed in the Virgin Islands?

Nearly 1,500 solar energy systems have been installed throughout the territory. 15 MW of distributed solar PV are either in place or under construction. As a result, the Virgin Islands government has authorized \$35 million in funding to install lighting and water retrofits in 34 more schools.

Is the US Virgin Islands a good place to start a wind farm?

The US Virgin Islands have been recognized as a regional leader in clean energy due to the success of collecting wind resource data for its first commercial wind farm. DOE's National Renewable Energy Laboratory has collected the necessary data for this project.

Why is solar power important in the USVI?

The USVI's abundant solar resource, with a global horizontal irradiation of nearly 6 kWh/square meter-day, makes solar power economically attractive in the USVI.

What is the cost of wind energy in St. Croix?

The cost of wind energy in St. Croix ranges from \$0.08 to \$0.14 per kWh. The localized cost of energy from utility-scale wind projects ranges from this amount. St. Croix has moderate potential to generate 3 MW to 5 MW of energy from biomass because the majority of the island is covered with forest. Landfill gas has an expected capacity of about the same.

How many electricity grids does the USVI have?

The USVI has two separate electricity grids. Each grid is located on a different main island and is managed by WAPA, an independent governmental agency.

Will the Virgin Islands reduce fossil fuel use by 60% by 2025?

The Virgin Islands, with support from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), have set a goal of reducing fossil fuel use by 60% by 2025.

The territory has strong solar and wind resources that create the potential for cost-effective renewable power generation. Currently about 2% to 3% of VIWAPA's customer loads are provided by renewable energy from two solar power plants, while the balance of electricity is generated from fossil fuels.

The Donoe solar farm in St. Thomas, U.S Virgin Islands was originally built in 2015 but sustained significant damage during the 2017 hurricane season. In 2019, BMR Energy agreed to acquire the site of the original solar farm and closed on the purchase in 2020.

The U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI), part of the Leeward Islands of the Lesser Antilles, became a U.S. territory in 1917 and is located in the Caribbean Sea, about 1,100 miles southeast of Miami, Florida. 1,2 The USVI has no

fossil energy reserves, but does have some renewable resources, particularly solar energy. 3,4,5 The USVI imports petroleum ...

Numerous renewable energy achievements since then are pushing the Virgin Islands toward its 2025 goal: A solar plant installed at the Cyril E. King Airport on St. Thomas, one of the largest photovoltaic (PV) systems in ...

It is planned in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. According to GlobalData, who tracks and profiles over 170,000 power plants worldwide, the project is currently at the permitting stage. It will be developed in a single phase.

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Two people who know best -- Hugo Hodge and Lawrence Kupfer, both former WAPA chief executives -- believe the future energy source in the Virgin Islands should be solar, with battery storage and perhaps wind backup.

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