

# Virgin Islands Energy Independence.

A ten-year plan to power the USVI with sun, wind, storage, and resilience — not imported fuel.

**80%**

FUEL IMPORTS CUT

**\$1B+**

CORE PROGRAM

**2,000+**

CONSTRUCTION JOBS

**10 yrs**

2026 — 2036

# From one of the most fuel-dependent grids in America — to an energy-independent territory.

STRATEGIC GOAL

**Reduce imported fuel consumption by 80% within 10 years.**

*Improve reliability. Lower long-term electricity costs. Build a grid that survives the storm.*

THE REAL SHIFT

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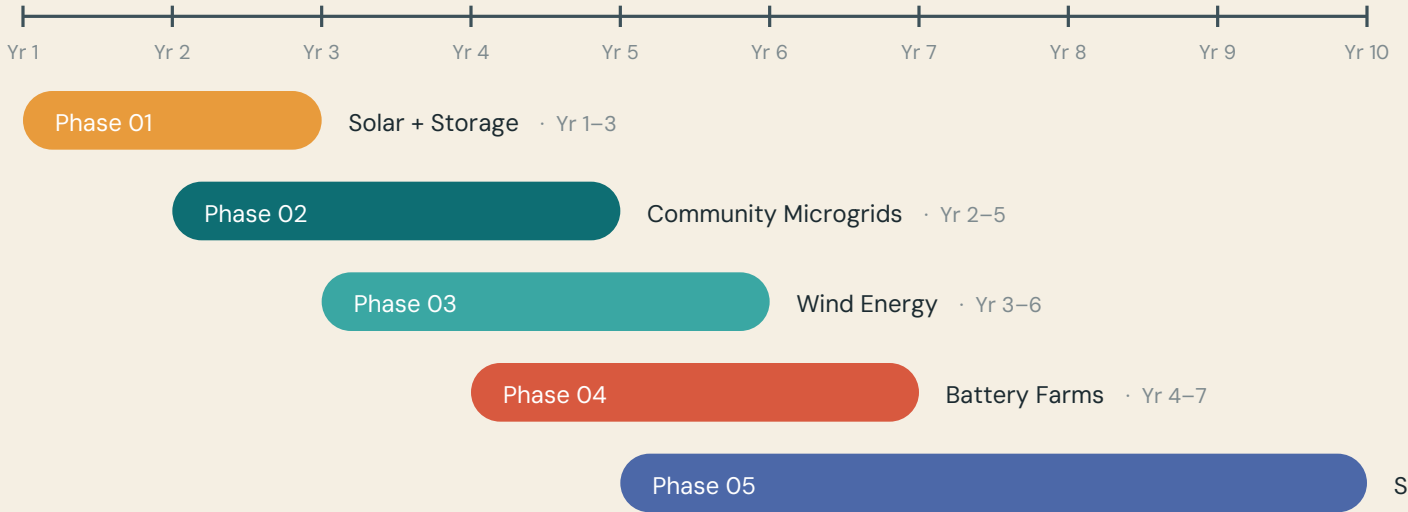
FROM

**“How do we keep the generators running?”**

TO

**→ “How do we build a Virgin Islands where fuel shipments are no longer the foundation?”**

# Five phases. One decade. A grid built for the islands.



CORE PROGRAM

**\$1.065 B**

Solar, microgrids, wind, batteries, SMR study

WITH SMR CONSTRUCTION

**\$2.5 – 3.5 B**

If the Small Modular Reactor moves forward

# 01

PHASE 1 · YEARS 1 – 3

## Solar + Battery Storage



150 MW utility-scale solar paired with 600 MWh of grid storage across all three islands.

### PROJECT SCOPE

- 150 MW utility-scale solar
- 600 MWh battery storage
- Sites on St. Thomas, St. Croix, and St. John

### PURPOSE

Provide clean daytime power across the territory and store enough energy to carry the islands through evening peak demand and early-night hours.

### ESTIMATED COST

Solar · 150 MW × \$1.5M/MW	\$225 M
Battery storage · 600 MWh × \$450K/MWh	\$270 M
Transmission upgrades	\$75 M

PHASE 1 TOTAL

**\$570 Million**

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**Daytime power from the sun. Evening power from the battery.**

— PHASE 01

### EXPECTED IMPACT

• Cut fuel consumption by 25%

• Lower utility operating costs

• 4 – 6 hours of backup power

• Fewer blackouts territory-wide

# 02

PHASE 2 · YEARS 2 — 5

## Community Microgrids



20 community energy hubs at schools, shelters, and emergency sites

### PROJECT SCOPE

- 20 community energy hubs
- Schools, fire stations, hospitals
- Police stations and emergency shelters
- Each hub: solar canopies, batteries,
- backup generation, EV charging

### PURPOSE

Make sure that when the grid goes down — and it will — no community is left completely in the dark. Shelters stay open, communications stay online, water keeps pumping.

### ESTIMATED COST

20 sites × \$5M each	\$100 M
Solar canopies + battery storage	Included
Backup generation + EV charging	Included

PHASE 2 TOTAL

**\$100 Million**

“**When the grid goes down, no community is left in the dark.**”

— PHASE 02

### EXPECTED IMPACT

● Shelters stay operational during outages

● Communications stay online

● Water pumping continues

● Emergency services remain active

# 03

PHASE 3 · YEARS 3 — 6

## Wind Energy Development



50 MW of offshore and nearshore wind generation

### PROJECT SCOPE

- 50 MW offshore / nearshore wind
- Sited to complement solar production
- Generates power day and night

### PURPOSE

Diversify the energy mix beyond solar. Wind blows at night and during storm fronts when solar can't carry the load — making the grid genuinely resilient.

### ESTIMATED COST

50 MW × \$3.5M/MW	\$175 M
Grid interconnection	Included
Environmental + permitting	Included

PHASE 3 TOTAL

**\$175 Million**

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**The wind blows when the sun doesn't.** — PHASE 03  
**A grid needs both.**

### EXPECTED IMPACT

- Diversifies the territory's energy mix
- Generates power day and night
- Reduces dependence on fuel imports
- Complements solar production cycles

# 04

PHASE 4 · YEARS 4 – 7

## Territory-Wide Battery Farms



500 MWh of additional grid storage at three strategic sites

### PROJECT SCOPE

- 500 MWh additional grid storage
- Richmond (St. Croix)
- Estate Tutu (St. Thomas)
- Cruz Bay (St. John)

### PURPOSE

Stabilize the grid as renewables scale up. These storage farms absorb fluctuations from solar and wind and prevent cascading outages when demand spikes.

### ESTIMATED COST

500 MWh × \$400K/MWh	\$200 M
Site work + interconnection	Included
Grid management software	Included

PHASE 4 TOTAL

**\$200 Million**

“**Storage is the quiet backbone of a renewable grid.**”

— PHASE 04

### EXPECTED IMPACT

- Stabilizes the territory-wide grid
- Prevents cascading outages
- Absorbs renewable fluctuations
- Smooths transition to clean power

# 05

PHASE 5 · YEARS 5 — 10

## Small Modular Reactor Study



Evaluate deployment of a 50 — 100 MW SMR for 24/7 baseload power

### PROJECT SCOPE

- 50 — 100 MW Small Modular Reactor
- Potential partners: X-energy, NuScale, TerraPower, First American Nuclear
- Public feasibility and safety study

### PURPOSE

Study whether advanced nuclear can deliver 24/7 baseload power for the territory — ending the need for fuel imports entirely. Construction proceeds only if the study and community process support it.

### ESTIMATED COST

Feasibility study	\$20 M
Potential construction (if approved)	\$1.5 – 2.5 B
Community + regulatory process	Included

PHASE 5 STUDY

**\$20 Million**

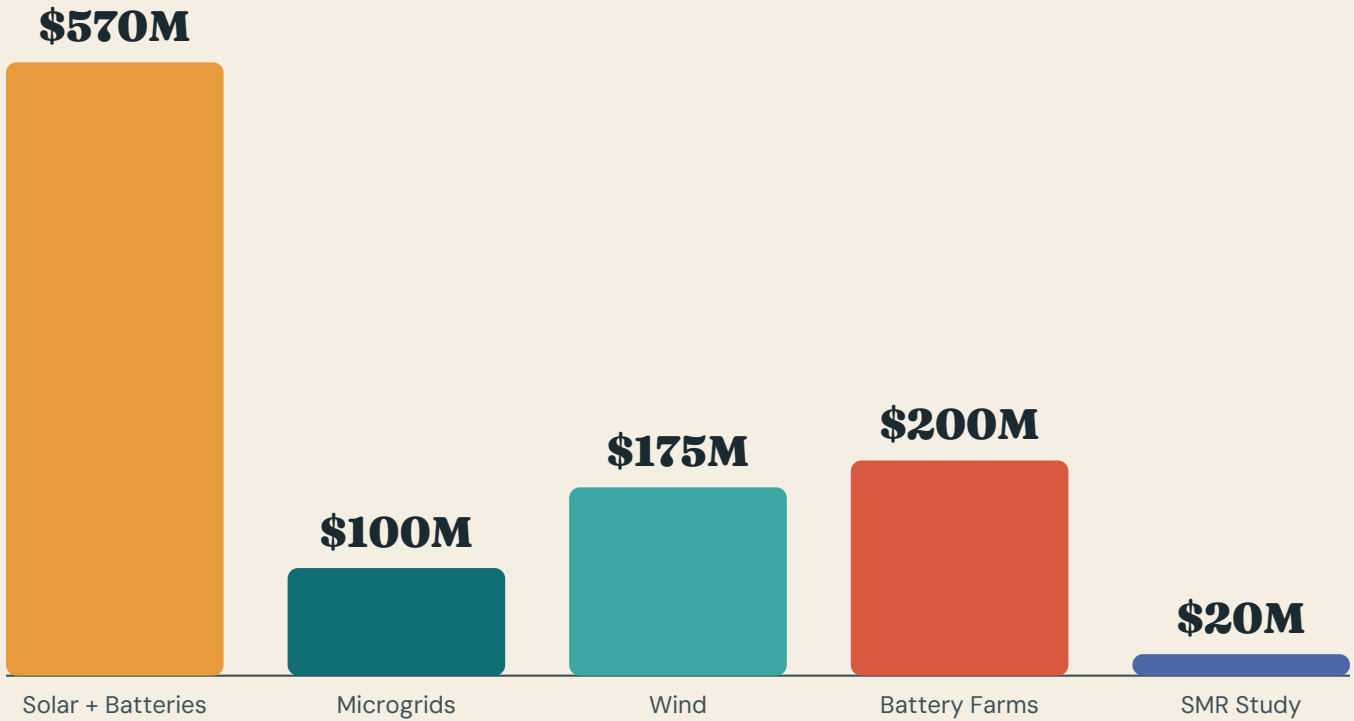
“**24/7 baseload power — studied openly, decided by the community.**”

— PHASE 05

### EXPECTED IMPACT

- 24/7 baseload power
- Near-zero fuel imports
- Long-term energy security
- Final decision after public review

# What it costs to power the islands without fuel.



WITHOUT NUCLEAR CONSTRUCTION

**\$1.065 Billion**

Five phases delivered over a decade

WITH SMR CONSTRUCTION

**\$2.5 – 3.5 Billion**

If a Small Modular Reactor is built

# How the islands pay for the transformation.

## **FEMA**

Federal disaster recovery and hazard mitigation funds.

## **HUD-CDBG**

Community Development Block Grants for resilience.

## **DOE Grid Modernization**

Grants for grid modernization and storage.

## **Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act**

Energy infrastructure provisions.

## **Inflation Reduction Act**

Tax credits and clean-energy incentives.

## **Green Bonds**

Long-term debt financing for clean infrastructure.

## **Public-Private Partnerships**

Co-investment with utility and renewable developers.

## **Department of Defense**

Energy resilience programs for critical sites.

# What this builds for the Virgin Islands.

**2,000+**

Construction jobs

**300+**

Permanent jobs

**80%**

Less imported fuel

**\$100s M**

Saved annually on fuel

## BEYOND THE NUMBERS

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*Grid reliability rises across the territory. Emergency shelters keep the lights on. Water keeps pumping during outages. Every household gains a measure of energy security that the islands have not had in a generation.*

# **A billion-dollar plan is not unrealistic. It is overdue.**

The USVI is expected to receive tens of billions of dollars over the coming decade through recovery, infrastructure, resilience, housing, transportation, and energy-related funding programs.

A \$1 billion energy transformation plan is large — but it is not unrealistic when compared against the economic losses caused by repeated outages, fuel imports, and aging infrastructure.

THE QUESTION CHANGES

NOT

**“How do we keep the generators running?”**

BUT

**“How do we build a Virgin Islands where fuel shipments are no longer the foundation?”**



# Independence is infrastructure.

*Let's build it together.*

## COMMUNITY

Share this plan.  
Attend the hearings.

## BUSINESS

Co-invest.  
Hire local.

## GOVERNMENT

Apply for federal  
resilience funds.