

Mr. Jean Pierre Oriol, Acting Commissioner,
Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources
Coastal Zone Management Program

August 17, 2014

Good day Commissioner Oriol,

My name is Steven Bond. I am a twenty year St John resident, a Coral Bay property owner, a small business owner, and the owner of a registered and legally moored sailboat.

I am writing you to express my concerns over the proposed Summers End Group (SEG) marina project for Coral Bay Harbor, St John.

To put it in a nutshell, I think the proposed marina is a BAD IDEA. It will negatively affect the environment. It will over tax the existing infrastructure. It will negatively affect, if not destroy the existing local economy. It will negatively affect the local community. All for the sake of enriching a select few.

The proposed SEG marina will have a negative affect on the environment. The construction will require some 1300 pilings to be driven, severely disturbing an area of the sea floor that DPNR has listed as an " Area of particular concern". It seeks to concentrate a large number of boats into a small amount of space. This equates to concentrating a large amount of pollutants into a small amount of space. Even with proper wastewater pumpout equipment, yachts still pollute. Ablative antifouling paints, unburnt fuel in their exhaust, fuel spills, chemical cleaning products used during washdown, prop wash lifting sediments from the sea floor are some examples that come to mind. Coral Bay is a relatively shallow harbor, that faces into the prevailing wind and seas. It has a very small tidal range, and doesn't flush quickly. One only needs to watch from the hillside how long it takes for landbased runoff to be cleared from the bay.

Please have some concern for this "area of particular concern" and do not approve this project.

The construction and operation of this project can not happen without a large burden being placed on our roads, waste facilities, electric grid, and water system. They are over taxed as it stands. Please do not approve this project. Coral Bay has an existing economy based on tourism. Rental villas dot the hillsides. The slow rate at which these have been constructed has provided employment for local contractors and tradesmen for many years. The management, maintenance, and cleaning of these villas provides continual employment for many. The guests who stay in these villas eat at our locally owned restaurants, & shop in our locally owned shops. Construction of this project will change all that. The construction of a project of this scope will be

NOISY, and will last for years. Tourists come to Coral Bay to enjoy the peace & quiet. They have a choice, and I do not believe they will continue to keep coming if this project commences. Please do not approve the (SEG) project.

Last but not least, I feel that the (SEG) marina project will negatively affect the community of Coral Bay. Coral Bay is a special place that I have chosen to be my home. I have worked very hard to be here, run my woodworking business, buy my property and build my home. As a property / home owner, I do not want to be subjected to the years of noise the construction of this project will take. Nor do I want to be subjected to the constant noise and light pollution that will continue as it operates. I feel a majority of this community feels the same. As a member of the boating community, I do not like the idea of over half of the navigable harbor being turned over to the construction of this marina, nor the proposed management of the mooring field being placed into the hands of a for-profit entity. This is submerged public land, we all should have access, I feel this project will exclude access to Coral Bay Harbor for the local boating community, not improve access. I fear the local boater will not be able to afford access. Change is inevitable, but it is not always good. I support change when it benefits the whole of the community. I feel the (SEG) project will disrupt the whole Coral Bay Community for the financial benefit of a very small number of people

Please do not approve the (SEG) marina.

Sincerely,

Steven Bond