

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 Nathan Craig, I am a fifteen year resident and property owner in Coral Bay. I am married, have two young children and look forward to them growing up in a healthy environment.

I think this marina plan would be detrimental to that goal.

This marina would cause a large amount of pollution entering a harbor that does not quickly flush. Besides being horrible for the marine ecosystem, I am concerned about the noise and air pollution. I can hear, see, and smell the harbor from my house. I do not look forward to diesel fumes wafting into my house as I eat breakfast. The proposed area for this marina faces open water and is much better suited to being an anchorage than a marina. Insurance companies will not cover hurricane damage. All boats moored in the marina will be forced to leave in the face of an oncoming hurricane. Where will they go? There is currently a waiting list for spaces in Hurricane Hole.

I believe the SEG proposal would greatly effect the local economy. The type of environment they would like to create is exactly the type of environment tourists come here to escape. Coral Bay is special because it is different than other places. We have local artists and craftsmen who make and sell things. We do not need to bring in high end designer outlets, we make things right here in Coral Bay. I know the French and Italians are having a tough time, but I think we should concentrate our economic efforts a little closer to home. These kind of stores are better suited for cruise ship destinations. I really hope that is not what is being planned for Coral Bay.

I also believe the SEG will be highly disruptive to the Coral Bay community. It especially concerns me that the SEG feels the need to hire security guards. Do we really need security to keep the community safe from these mega yacht owners?

Coral Bay does not need, nor want this marina.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nathan Craig