

Pierre Oriol - Acting Commissioner VI Dept. of Planning and Natural Resources  
Coastal Zone Management Program  
Re: CZM STJ-3-14L and CZM STJ-4-14W  
8100 Lindberg Bay #61  
St Thomas, VI 00802

Dear Mr. Oriol and your DPNR/CZM staff;

We are new property owners of a home in the Coral Bay quarters of St. John. We have become an active part of the community, pay taxes as well as being new business owners. Our business is the rental of a vacation villa to some of the many people who chose to vacation on St. John.

The proposed marina project by the Summer's End Group (SEG) is extremely out of scale for our small, still fairly virgin island. While a smaller development might be welcomed, the scale of this project and the potential for damage to every facet of life in Coral Bay would be devastating for our small island. The size of the project is bigger than either Yacht Haven or American Yacht Harbor, even in Cruz Bay (if it were large enough) this project would overwhelm the surrounding area.

The environmental damages posed by the development threaten to destroy the mangroves, dredging and the possible silt could damage the corals. There are acres of submerged lands that have been nearly untouched in decades that would be lost by pile driving and docks. There has yet to be due diligence studies by Army Corps of Engineers and other environmental assessments. It is clear from past hurricane experience, that Coral Bay is by no means a "safe anchorage" in a storm and for previous storms there was only boat damage to worry about not hundreds of slips and docks being torn asunder. And we have yet to even address the damage to the quality of life of the inhabitants of not only Coral Bay, but of all of St. John and our many visitors who enjoy coming to an area of preservation (as opposed to over development, a balance that we are already in danger of losing without the massiveness of the SEG).

We have chosen St. John, as a place to visit and purchase property on, because of it's unspoiled and untouched beaches, hiking trails, harbors, etc. THIS is what attracts visitors to the island and sets St. John apart from other Caribbean Islands. Why spoil a good thing? Sure some improvements to the Coral Bay harbor could prove advantageous, but please consider the island's present uniqueness when deciding on the extent of the improvements in attempt to maintain the Island's intimate and naturistic charm!

We are already attracting exactly the type of people most suited to our island. They/we LOVE St. John and they/we love it for its lack of pretention, it's unsullied beaches, it's casual availability, it's small island sense of community and support.

PLEASE do not sell out on a product that already works and try to make St. John just another mega-yacht destination when we are already so much more than that.

I respectfully request that this committee turn down this application. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dave and Michele Meade  
St. John