Lonnie & Albert Willis P.O. Box 566 Cruz Bay St. John, VI 00831

Mr. Jean Pierre Oriol Acting Commissioner Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources Coastal Zone Management Program August 19, 2014

Dear Mr. Oriol:

We have made St. John our home for the past 40 years, raising our children here, and now with our son and daughterinlaw living here, raising our grandchild here. We have run the St. John Car Rental, Inc. for all these years as well and have gotten to know our neighbors, customers, and the Villa Managers we deal with daily. We are adamantly opposed to the Summers End Group proposal for the Coral Bay Marina. When we read their prospectus, we couldn't believe its scope and size, and the utter disregard for the Coral Bay community that exists there now. There are so many things wrong with it, it's almost hard to take it seriously. Here are some of our concerns about it:

- 1. The infrastructure necessary to run something like this does not exist. That includes, electricity, roads, water, gasoline, and workforce.
- a. WAPA cannot deliver affordable and reliable electricity to the residents now. What would our electricity situation be like if this were built?
- b. The one road we do have took over 3 years to fix after it washed out. Imagine heavy equipment pounding that road day in and day out to deliver concrete and construction materials, not to mention the provisions that would be needed if it were actually built.
- c. Recently, I heard some complaints about the amount of water trucks having to deliver water to the Calabash Boom community. This project would take quite a lot of water and trucks, possibly to the detriment of other communities on St. John. d. Many of our work force comes from St. Thomas, or in the case of one employee, she had to move to St. Thomas to find an affordable rental. So many of our work force on St. John comes from the states during the season, and many of them find it hard to find a place to live. I have never had enough locals apply for jobs when I was running 2 restaurants and had over 50 employees, and my son has also had this experience. A large work force simply does not exist; the people they would employ would be newcomers to the island.
- 2. Luxury sale items and gated communities do not suit the feeling of the Coral Bay area that now bills itself successfully as peaceful and low key. Tourists like Coral Bay

as it is, and come back time and again. Improvements are always welcome, but should not be at the expense of our peaceful use of an entire area.

- 3. The harbor itself would not ecologically support this egregious onslaught. The sensitive quality of the bay would be destroyed by their pilings and would not soon come again.
- 4. Construction on this type of scale would take so long that it would destroy the local economy, including the villa rental business, retail stores, water sports industry and restaurant business. My car rental business would be impacted as our repeat Coral Bay customers would not come back.
- 5. The amount of sound pollution over this long a time would be prohibitive.
- 6. Building this amount of pilings would impact the historical and archeological nature of what may be buried under the seabed and its surrounding areas.
- 7. The harbor is not suited to be filled with boats at a marina during storms, and everyone would have to leave. A marina that is not safe to be in is no marina worth building.
- 8. Over the 40 years we have been here, we have seen so many proposals that were accepted, turn bad. Either from lack of planning, fraud, or stupidity. There is no reason this has to be another one of these, if it is nipped in the bud and not allowed to go further.

The main point I want to make here, is that while we don't oppose a suitable marina in Coral Bay, and other suitable improvements, we do object to the SEG's concept and the lack of understanding of the very nature of the tourists who come to St. John and enjoy our laid back experiences. The people who want to enjoy mega yachts and highend shopping ARE NOT THE PEOPLE WHO COME TO ST. JOHN NOW. What reason would the principals have for putting this overthetop proposal to the commission, except to make mega money as a tradeoff for our peace and quiet and way of life. Nothing will be gained. Jobs for locals is a ploy, not a reality.

We would be opposed to this and any compromise these people would (will) make to get their vision accomplished. Please listen to the facts of this proposal and vote in favor of the people of Coral Bay, and St. John, and not some money seeking developers.

Sincerely,

Lonnie and Albert Willis