



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

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DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Division of Coastal Zone Management

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July 28th, 2025

Honorable Milton E. Potter
President
36th Legislature of the United States Virgin Islands
Capitol Building
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

Re: Coastal Zone Management Permit for Ratification

Good day Senate President Milton E. Potter., other members of the 36th Legislature of the US Virgin Islands, legislative staff, and members of the viewing and listening public. My name is Gregory Richards and I am the Assistant Director for the Division of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) in the Department of Planning and Natural Resources. Today we are present seeking ratification of the following CZM permit:

Major CZM Permit No. CZMJWL-0001-24 issued to Trans Americas Fiber U.S. LLC, if ratified, this permit allows for the:

Permittee to use the existing pipeline bores installed at Butler Bay, St. Croix and connect a submarine fiber optic cable to the AT&T of the Virgin Islands telecommunications building located at No 4-A Estate Northside, St. Croix USVI.

The cable landing bores are positioned at 17°45'28.9"N 64°53'22.2"W while the cable station is located at 17°45'28.4"N 64°53'18.0"W.

A rental fee of **sixty-seven thousand and 00/100 (\$67,000.00)** per year, payable annually in advance, shall be charged for the conduit covered under this permit occupying the submerged land area.

The term of the permit is **20** years.

The Commissioner of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources has deemed that the permit listed above meets the goals and policies of the VI Code, Title 12 Chapter 21. Therefore, we respectfully request your ratification of this permit pursuant to 12 VIC § 911(e).

This concludes our testimony on behalf of the Division, and we are available to answer questions as best as we can. Thank you.