

## **GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES**

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## **DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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## Office of the Commissioner

August 19, 2025

The Honorable Milton E. Potter President 36<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands

via email: mpotter@legvi.org

Dear Senate President Potter:

This correspondence is to certify that I have reviewed the request being proposed by the Honorable Albert Bryan Jr. on behalf of the Summers End Group (SEG) for the St. John Marina permitted under Consolidated Major Coastal Zone Management Permit No. CZJ-03-14(L) and CZJ-04-14(W). The changes proposed are a reduction in the footprint of the marina by  $\sim$ 5800 ft², which corresponds to a reduction in slips by 31 to 115. The request also includes the installation of mangler islands as mitigation for the impacts to the benthic habitat within the vicinity of the marina.

I have confirmed that SEG has been in consultation with the US Army Corps of Engineers for a number of years on this project, trying to align the proposed development with the surrounding environment. The removal of slips and reduction in the footprint of the marina results in an overall reduction in impact by the development. In addition, the proposed mitigation for the installation of mangler islands creates no negative impact on the surrounding area.

As the proposed change does not substantially alter the scope, nature or characteristics of the approved permit, the changes meet the criteria for modification as prescribed by the Coastal Zone Management rules and regulations. Moreover, as SEG has been in consultation with the US Army Corps of Engineers, responding to requests for information and making changes to the footprint, they have been working towards obtaining the federal permit to undertake development in the trustlands, as is required pursuant to 12 VIC § 910(g). Having an active file with the Corps provides justification for an extension being granted.

Should you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jean-Pierre L. Orio Commissioner