

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Estate Profit Housing Community Residents Plagued With "Red Dust," Little Response From Officials

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VI Consortium On Your Side

On Sat., Oct. 18, the *VI Consortium* received a telephone call from a concerned citizen in the Estate Profit housing community, complaining of having problems with a certain red dust plaguing her home that originated from land located on the west side of the Diageo Rum Distillery.

The resident, who lives on the upper floor of her two-story home, said although she has voiced her grievances numerous times to the companies who are supposed to fix the problem, DeNovo and Alcoa, Inc., she has mostly been given the cold shoulder.

View the original embedded media (unavailable in the recovered archive)

The concerned citizen said the dust has been affecting her home for over 20 years, and while it had subsided in recent times, it has returned with construction currently taking place in the area that is supposed to correct the dust problem. The companies working on the property are in the process of covering up the dust. But while the work continues, the people are suffering.

"Everyday I have to mop my house," the woman said. However, she is not only concerned about the dust because of the daily housework it brings, she also fears her cistern water may be contaminated.

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) is responsible for regulating the companies now working on the clean up. Local representatives from DeNovo and Alcoa, Inc. have declined comment.

The *VI Consortium* will continue to follow this story.

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