

**From:** [Jim Fisker-Andersen](#)  
**To:** [EL FARO](#); [Donald Matthews](#); [Jim Wagstaff](#); [Phil Morrell](#); [Tim Nolan](#)  
**Cc:** [Bill Weinbecker](#); [Ivan Burgos](#); [Paula Izquierdo](#); [Ronald Rodriguez](#); [Tim Neeson \(TOTE Services\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Tropical Storm Erika update for SJU this week  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 25, 2015 2:24:40 PM

---

Thanks Capt Mike. Good plan. Stay safe.

Kind Regards,

Jim Fisker-Andersen | Director of Ship Management | TOTE Services  
10550 Deerwood Park Blvd, Suite 602; Jacksonville, FL 32256  
Cellular | [REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

**From:** EL FARO [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2015 12:10 PM  
**To:** dmatthews [REDACTED]; Wagstaff, Jim; Phil Morrell; tnolan [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Jim Fisker-Andersen; Bill Weinbecker; iburgos [REDACTED]; pizquierdo [REDACTED]; rrodriguez [REDACTED]; Tim Neeson  
**Subject:** RE: Tropical Storm Erika update for SJU this week

Good Afternoon,

As per our most recent BVS weather file and related marine weather radio broadcasts, the El Faro will transit the "Old Bahama Channel" enroute to San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Although this route does add an additional 160nm, I am confident that it offers a safer sea passage compared to our normal offshore route. It also allows for the options of hove to and or jog west of Puerto Rico as Erika tracks either north or south of the island.

Tomorrow morning we will commence securing our cargo with additional storm lashings as needed. All departments have been instructed to secure their areas and I will keep you duly notified throughout the voyage.

Should you have any questions or concerns, kindly contact this vessel.

Best Regards,  
Mike Davidson, Master.  
SS El Faro WFJK  
capt.wfjk [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

**From:** TNolan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2015 10:46 AM  
**To:** iburgos [REDACTED]; jwagstaff [REDACTED]; dmatthews [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** capt.wgjt [REDACTED]; elise [REDACTED]; tug.captlatham [REDACTED]; pmorrel [REDACTED]; bweinbecker [REDACTED]; tneeson [REDACTED]; jfisker [REDACTED]; rrodriguez [REDACTED]; pizquierdo [REDACTED]; capt [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Tropical Storm Erika update for SJU this week

Thanks for the update Don and lets make sure we stay in communication.

Stay safe to everyone at sea!

Tim

Tim Nolan | President  
Sea Star Line, LLC  
10550 Deerwood Park Blvd., Ste. 509, Jacksonville, FL 32256  
Office: [redacted] | Mobile: [redacted] | Email:  
tnolan@[redacted]

From: Donald Matthews  
<[redacted]>  
Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2015 10:39 AM  
To: Tim Nolan <[redacted]>, Jim Wagstaff <[redacted]>, Ivan Burgos <[redacted]>  
Cc: Paula Izquierdo <[redacted]>, Ronald Rodriguez <[redacted]>, Jim Fisker-Anderson <[redacted]>, "Tim Neeson (TOTE Services)" <[redacted]>, Bill Weinbecker <[redacted]>, "Phil Morrell" <[redacted]>, "Captain El Faro" <[redacted]>, "EL YUNQUE" <[redacted]>, "Tug CaptLatham" <[redacted]>, "Elise Anderson" <[redacted]>  
Subject: Tropical Storm Erika update for SJU this week

Good Morning All,

I just received a phone call from the USCG in SJU regarding TS Erika.

At this time, they're planning to go to condition Yankee tomorrow, 26 Aug, at 1500, which means the port will be closed to all inbound traffic.

At 0300 on Thursday, 27 Aug, the plan is to go to condition Zulu, which means the port is closed and no cargo operations will be allowed.

There is no projection at this time as to when the "All Clear" will be given.

In short, it appears that the El Faro may have a delayed arrival into SJU, as well as the Capt Latham/Columbia Elizabeth.

Don Matthews | Marine Operations Manager Sea Star Line, LLC  
8710 Longshore Way, Jacksonville, FL 32226 Office [redacted]  
[redacted] | Email:

dmatthews [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Received: from INT at Globe Wireless;  
Tue, 25 Aug 2015 14:47 UTC  
Message-id: 560466990

Received: from MPD at Globe Wireless;  
Tue, 25 Aug 2015 19:20 UTC  
Message-id: 560546700

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**From:** Phil Morrell  
**To:** EL FARO; dmatthews [REDACTED]; Wagstaff, Jim; tnolan [REDACTED]  
**CC:** Bill Weinbecker; iburgos [REDACTED]; Jim Fisker-Andersen; pizquierdo [REDACTED]; rrodriguez [REDACTED]; Tim Neeson  
**Sent:** 8/25/2015 3:26:35 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Tropical Storm Erika update for SJU this week

Mike,

Voyage plan noted and concur with your assessment.  
Please keep all update as the situation changes.

Best regards  
Phil Morrell

-----Original Message-----

**From:** EL FARO [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2015 12:10 PM  
**To:** Phil Morrell; dmatthews [REDACTED]; Wagstaff, Jim; tnolan [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Bill Weinbecker; iburgos [REDACTED]; Jim Fisker-Andersen; pizquierdo [REDACTED]; rrodriguez [REDACTED]; Tim Neeson  
**Subject:** RE: Tropical Storm Erika update for SJU this week

Good Afternoon,

As per our most recent BVS weather file and related marine weather radio broadcasts, the El Faro will transit the "Old Bahama Channel" enroute to San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Although this route does add an additional 160nm, I am confident that it offers a safer sea passage compared to our normal offshore route. It also allows for the options of hove to and or jog west of Puerto Rico as Erika tracks either north or south of the island.

Tomorrow morning we will commence securing our cargo with additional storm lashings as needed. All departments have been instructed to secure their areas and I will keep you duly notified throughout the voyage.

Should you have any questions or concerns, kindly contact this vessel.

Best Regards,  
Mike Davidson, Master.  
SS El Faro WFJK  
capt.wfj [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] c

-----Original Message-----

**From:** TNolan [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2015 10:46 AM  
**To:** iburgos [REDACTED]; jwagstaff [REDACTED]; dmatthews [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** capt.wgj [REDACTED]; elise@ [REDACTED]; tug.captlathan [REDACTED]; pmorrell [REDACTED]; bweinbecker [REDACTED]; tneeson [REDACTED]; jfiske [REDACTED]; rrodriguez [REDACTED]; pizquierdo [REDACTED]; capt [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Tropical Storm Erika update for SJU this week

Thanks for the update Don and lets make sure we stay in communication.

Stay safe to everyone at sea!

Tim

Tim Nolan | President

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**From:** Tim Nolan  
**To:** Anthony Chiarello  
**Sent:** 8/25/2015 5:29:56 PM  
**Subject:** Erika Preparedness Update - Sea Star Line, San Juan Terminal

FYI

**Tim Nolan** | President

Sea Star Line, LLC

10550 Deerwood Park Blvd., Ste. 509, Jacksonville, FL 32256

Office: [REDACTED] Mobile: ([REDACTED]) Email: [tnolan@seastarline.com](mailto:tnolan@seastarline.com)

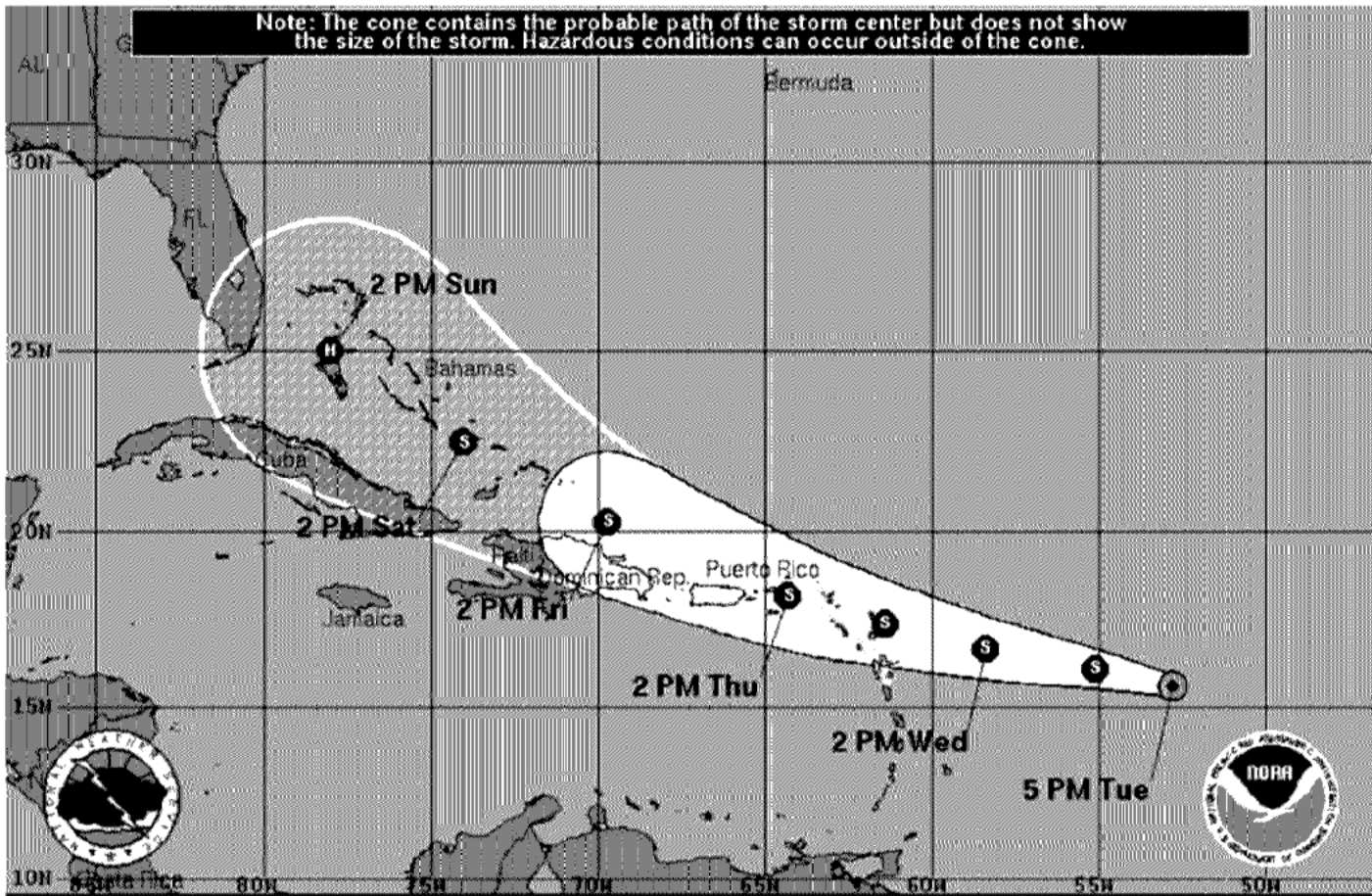
---

**From:** "Gerson L. Nazario" <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 25, 2015 5:14 PM  
**To:** Eduardo Pagan <[REDACTED]>, Ivan Burgos <[REDACTED]>, Frank Urban <[REDACTED]>, Cristina Colon <[REDACTED]>, Ana Medellin <[REDACTED]>, Becky Roberts <[REDACTED]>, Jeannette Rios <[REDACTED]>, Josue Negron <[REDACTED]>, sju security <[REDACTED]>, Luis Pere <[REDACTED]>, Jim Wagstaff <[REDACTED]>, "Ronnie D. London" <[REDACTED]>, Waldemar Robles <[REDACTED]>, Humberto Fuentes <[REDACTED]>, Diane Otero <[REDACTED]>, Paula Izquierdo <[REDACTED]>, "Glass, John" <[REDACTED]>, " <[REDACTED]>, Deborah MacPherson <[REDACTED]>, "Woodruff, Jim" <[REDACTED]>, Edil Peña <[REDACTED]>, "Eduardo Bermudez ([REDACTED])" <[REDACTED]>, "Jorge J. Fuentes" <[REDACTED]>, "Luis Franco Nieves ([REDACTED])" <[REDACTED]>, "dvalbuena" <[REDACTED]>, " <[REDACTED]>, Anthony Hughart <[REDACTED]>, Michael McDaid <[REDACTED]>, Tim Nolan <[REDACTED]>, Mackenzie Gill Hogan <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Erika Preparedness Update - Sea Star Line, San Juan Terminal

Good afternoon,

Please be advised that we continue with our Hurricane Plan active, now trying to figure out tropical storm Erika possible path. Following is the graphic view of the forecast as of today at 5:00PM, according to the NHC. Erika has a pretty fast movement of W @ 20 mph. I'll keep you informed, on a daily basis, including preparedness activities here at the Terminal.

Note: The cone contains the probable path of the storm center but does not show the size of the storm. Hazardous conditions can occur outside of the cone.



**Tropical Storm Erika**  
Tuesday August 25, 2015  
5 PM EDT Advisory #  
NWS National Hurricane Center

**Current Information:** ●  
Center Location 15.6 N 52.8 W  
Max Sustained Wind 40 mph  
Movement W at 20 mph

**Forecast Positions:**  
● Tropical Cyclone ○ Post-Tropical  
Sustained Winds: D < 39 mph  
S 39-73 mph H 74-110 mph M > 110mph

Thanks,

Gerson

*Gerson Nazario*

M&R / Risk Management Team Lead / FSO  
Sea Star Line Agency, Inc.

San Juan, PR, 00919



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**From:** Tim Nolan  
**To:** Anthony Chiarello  
**Sent:** 8/26/2015 8:56:46 AM  
**Subject:** Erika Preparedness Update - Sea Star Line, San Juan Terminal  
**Attachments:** MSIB\_PORTCON X-RAY\_ERIKA.pdf

FYI

**Tim Nolan | President**

Sea Star Line, LLC

10550 Deerwood Park Blvd., Ste. 509, Jacksonville, FL 32256

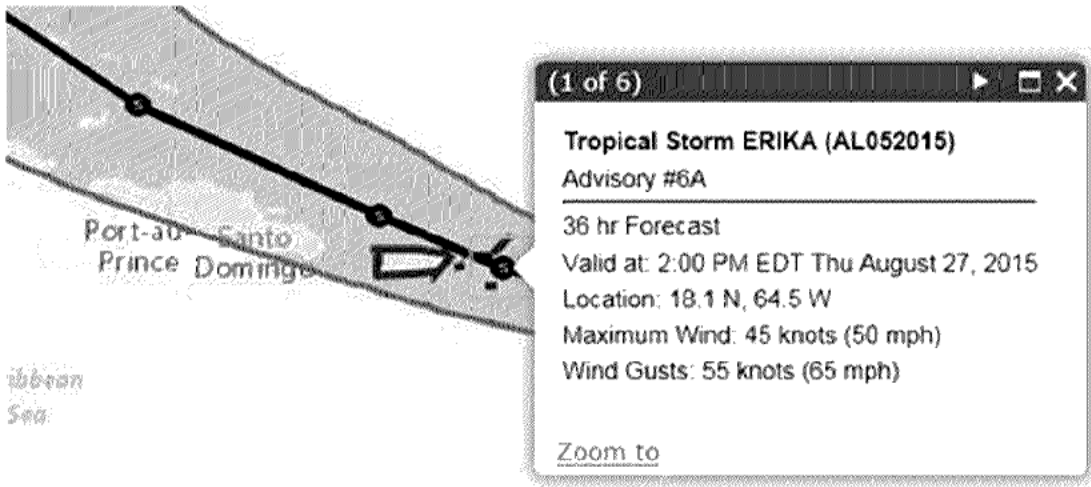
Office: [REDACTED] Mobile: [REDACTED] | Email: [tnolan@seastarline.com](mailto:tnolan@seastarline.com)

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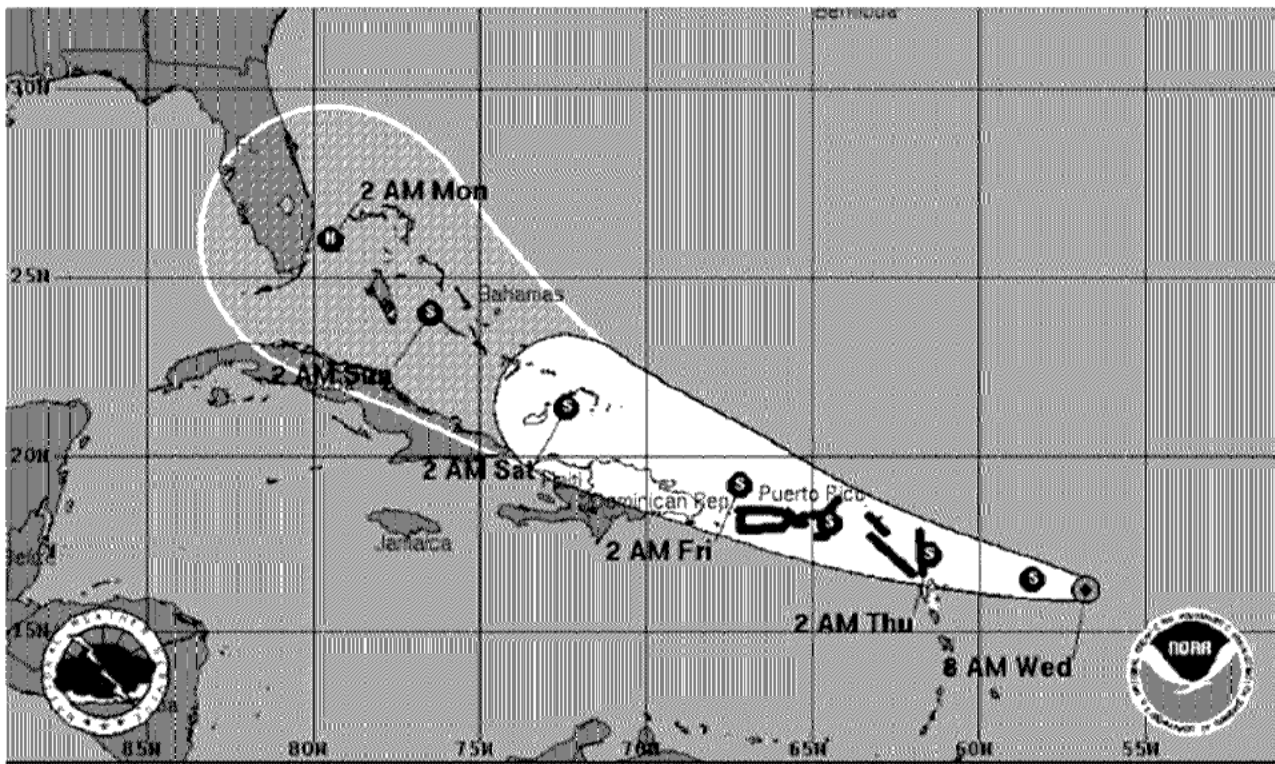
**From:** "Gerson L. Nazario" <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 26, 2015 8:49 AM  
**To:** Eduardo Pagan <[REDACTED]>, Ivan Burgos <[REDACTED]>, Frank Urban <[REDACTED]>, Cristina Colon <[REDACTED]>, Ana Medellin <[REDACTED]>, Becky Roberts <[REDACTED]>, Jeannette Rios <[REDACTED]>, Josue Negrón <[REDACTED]>, sju security <[REDACTED]>, Luis Pere <[REDACTED]>, Jim Wagstaff <[REDACTED]>, "Ronnie D. London" <[REDACTED]>, Waldemar Robles <[REDACTED]>, Humberto Fuentes <[REDACTED]>, Diane Otero <[REDACTED]>, Paula Izquierdo <[REDACTED]>, "Glass, John" <[REDACTED]>, "rpurvis" <[REDACTED]>, "rpurvis" <[REDACTED]>, Deborah MacPherson <[REDACTED]>, "Woodruff, Jim" <[REDACTED]>, Edil Peña <[REDACTED]>, "Eduardo Bermudez" <[REDACTED]>, "Jorge J. Fuentes" <[REDACTED]>, "Luis Franco Nieves" <[REDACTED]>, "lfranco" <[REDACTED]>, "dvalbuena" <[REDACTED]>, "dvalbuena" <[REDACTED]>, Anthony Hughart <[REDACTED]>, Michael McDaid <[REDACTED]>, Tim Nolan <[REDACTED]>, Mackenzie Gill Hogan <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: Erika Preparedness Update - Sea Star Line, San Juan Terminal

Good morning,

At this moment, as per the NHC, Puerto Rico and the USVI are under a tropical storm warning. Erika continues to move to the West @ 17 mph. The USCG established yesterday Port Condition X-Ray and today at approximately 2100 hrs. is expected to implement Port Condition Yankee which closes the port to all inbound commercial traffic unless specifically authorized by the COTP. See MSIB 14-15 attached. The forecast is to start experiencing Erika's effects tomorrow during the morning.



We will continue updating this bulletin throughout the day, along with preparedness activities at the facility.



<b>Tropical Storm Erika</b> Wednesday August 26, 2015 8 AM EDT Intermediate Advisory 6A NWS National Hurricane Center	<b>Current Information:</b> ● Center Location 16.2 N 56.8 W Max Sustained Wind 45 mph Movement W at 17 mph	<b>Forecast Positions:</b> ● Tropical Cyclone ○ Post-Tropical Sustained Winds: D < 39 mph S 39-73 mph H 74-110 mph M > 110mph
<b>Potential Track Area:</b> ☞ Day 1-3 ☞ Day 4-5	<b>Watches:</b> ☐ Hurricane ☐ Trop.Storm	<b>Warnings:</b> ☐ Hurricane ☐ Trop.Storm

Thanks,

Gerson

*Gerson Nazario*

M&R / Risk Management Team Lead / FSO  
 Sea Star Line Agency, Inc.

San Juan, PR, 00919



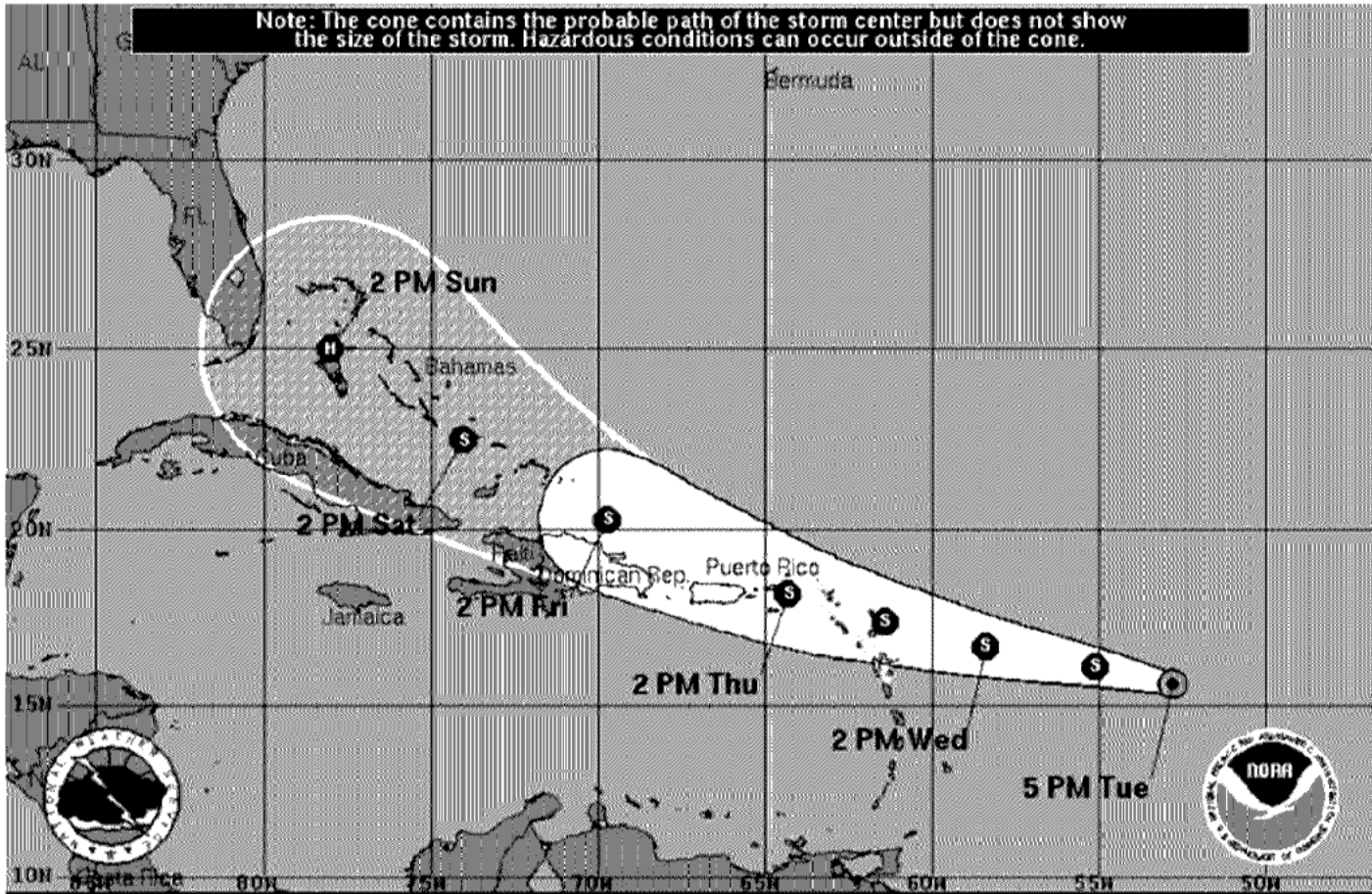
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**From:** Gerson L. Nazario  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2015 5:15 PM  
**To:** Eduardo Pagan; Ivan Burgos; Frank Urban; 'Cristina Colon'; Ana Medellin; Becky Roberts; Jeannette Rios; Josue Negron; sju security; 'Luis Pere'; Jim Wagstaff; Ronnie D. London; Waldemar Robles; Humberto Fuentes; Diane Otero; 'Paula Izquierdo'; 'Glass, John'; [REDACTED]; Deborah MacPherson; 'Woodruff, Jim'; Edil Peña; Eduardo Bermudez ([REDACTED]); 'Jorge J. Fuentes'; Luis Franco Nieves ([REDACTED]); 'dvalbuena' ([REDACTED]); Anthony Hughart; Michael McDaid; Tim Nolan; Mackenzie Gill Hogan  
**Subject:** Erika Preparedness Update - Sea Star Line, San Juan Terminal  
**Importance:** High

Good afternoon,

Please be advised that we continue with our Hurricane Plan active, now trying to figure out tropical storm Erika possible path. Following is the graphic view of the forecast as of today at 5:00PM, according to the NHC. Erika has a pretty fast movement of W @ 20 mph. I'll keep you informed, on a daily basis, including preparedness activities here at the Terminal.



**Tropical Storm Erika**  
 Tuesday August 25, 2015  
 5 PM EDT Advisory #  
 NWS National Hurricane Center

**Current Information:**  
 Center Location 15.6 N 52.8 W  
 Max Sustained Wind 40 mph  
 Movement W at 20 mph

**Forecast Positions:**  
 ● Tropical Cyclone ○ Post-Tropical  
 Sustained Winds: D < 39 mph  
 S 39-73 mph H 74-110 mph M > 110mph

Thanks,

Gerson

*Gerson Nazario*

*M&R / Risk Management Team Lead / FSO*

*Sea Star Line Agency, Inc.*

[REDACTED]  
*San Juan, PR, 00919*



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**MARITIME SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 14-15**

August 25, 2015

**TROPICAL STORM ERIKA  
PORT READINESS CONDITION XRAY FOR PUERTO RICO AND THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS**

Port Readiness Conditions are set by the Captain of the Port (COTP) and are based on the projected arrival of gale force winds (greater than 34 knots/39mph) associated with tropical storm activity in the port.

Hrs Prior To Gales	Readiness Condition	Measures In Effect	Actual or Anticipated Date/Time
72	Whiskey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oceangoing vessels &amp; barges 500 gross tons and above must make plans to depart no later than the setting of condition Yankee unless authorized by the COTP.</li> <li>Vessels wishing to remain in port are required to submit an application to the COTP (see Tab G.3 and G.4 of OPLAN 9776) prior to setting port condition X-Ray.</li> </ul>	21AUG15 1600EST
48	X-Ray	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All regulated facilities are required to submit a Facility Readiness Survey to the COTP prior to setting port condition Yankee (see Tab G.2 of OPLAN 9776).</li> <li>Vessels without approved applications to remain in port shall depart at this time.</li> </ul>	25AUG15
24	Yankee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The port is closed to all inbound commercial traffic unless specifically authorized by the COTP.</li> </ul>	26AUG15 1800* EST (USVI) 2100* EST (PR)
12	Zulu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The port is closed to all vessel traffic except unless specifically authorized by the COTP.</li> <li>Cargo operations are suspended, including bunkering and lightering. Waivers may be granted unless Cargo of Particular Hazard or Certain Dangerous Cargo is involved.</li> </ul>	27AUG15 0600* EST (USVI) 0900* EST (PR)
After storm's passage	All Clear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The port will be re-opened after a satisfactory assessment of the waterway, including critical aids to navigation, has been conducted.</li> </ul>	TBD

RED BOX = CURRENT CONDITION

YELLOW HIGHLIGHT = MEASURES REQUIRED

\*Times are subject to change

Today, all ports are in Port Readiness Condition XRAY due to the potential impact from TROPICAL STORM ERIKA. On 26AUG15, anticipate setting Port Readiness Condition YANKEE for the Ports of Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands. As conditions may change rapidly, you are encouraged to frequently check Sector San Juan's Homeport website for the most up to date information. The website can be found at: [www.homeport.uscg.mil](http://www.homeport.uscg.mil). Under the "Port Directory" menu, select "San Juan." If you have any questions, please contact my staff at the above listed telephone number or the Command Duty Officer at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

[REDACTED SIGNATURE]

Captain, U. S. Coast Guard  
Captain of the Port San Juan

- Enclosure (1): Tab G.3 Application to Remain In Port Vessel
- Enclosure (2): Tab G.4 Application to Remain In Port Tugs and Barges
- Enclosure (3): Tab G.2 to App 21 Facility Readiness Survey Sheet

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-----Original Message-----

From: PMorrell [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2015 1:07 PM  
To: [capt](#) [REDACTED]  
Subject: Re: EL FARO / Noon Position / 26 August 15

Are you tracking for an on time arrival if weather is not an issue ??

PhilMorrell | Vice President Commercial Marine Operations | TOTE Services 500 E  
Alexander Ave, Tacoma, WA 98421 | O: [REDACTED] | C: [REDACTED] |  
F: [REDACTED] Leading Edge Ship Management Solutions

Wed, 26 Aug 2015 16:46 UTC Message-id: 560943139  
AC WFJK.23552 XU 1989 TO [pmorrell](#) [REDACTED]  
FM capt.WFJK DT201508262046 SB

RE: EL FARO / Noon Position / 26 August 15

Afternoon Phil, I am tracking direct to San Juan, PR. via the Ol' Bahama Channel, which is 160nm more than our normal offshore route. We are not making the best of speed due to apposing currents and slightly lower than normal rpm, as a result of the "weeping" economizer tube in the port boiler. The CE has taken the edge off the boiler to avoid the possibility of bypassing it. At departure last evening from JAX, our best eta would have been 08/28/1300. With the above scenario we are realistically looking at 08/28/1800, or possibly later as weather deteriorates. Latest Issue from USCG Sector San Juan, PR. 08/26/1500: Condition Yankee / The port is closed to all incoming vessel traffic. 08/27/0300: Condition Zulu / The port is closed to all vessel traffic and no cargo operations. USCG Sector San Juan, PR. has given no projected time when the port would be reopened. I have reached out to the pilots in hopes of gaining some information with regards to their plans for scheduling vessel traffic once the port reopens. I have received no further information from them...

Best Regards, Mike Davidson, Master. SS El Faro  
WFJK capt.wfjk [REDACTED]



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**From:** [EL FARO](#)  
**To:** [Lawrence, John](#)  
**Cc:** [Jim Fisker-Andersen](#); [Patty Finsterbusch](#); [Phil Morrell](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Erika  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 26, 2015 7:49:17 PM

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Good Evening Captain Lawrence,

As per the most recent BVS weather file and related marine weather radio broadcasts, the El Faro has been transiting the "Old Bahama Channel" enroute to San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Although this route does add an additional 160nm, I am confident that it offers a safer sea passage compared to our normal offshore route. It also allows for the options to hove to and or jog west of Puerto Rico as Erika tracks either north or south of the island.

Our speed has increased to 20k since departing the Gulf Stream and our eta is showing 08/28/1300. I reached out to the San Juan Pilots regarding vessel traffic scheduling once the port reopens. I was informed that the "All Clear" would be issued only after several meetings and surveys have been conducted. It was advised that the El Faro maintain position in close proximity to the pilot station for first come, first serve scheduling of vessel traffic and this is exactly what I plan to do. I anticipate the weather to start deteriorating late on 08/27/15 and continue into the morning of 08/28/15, with ESE winds around 40k and seas 10'-12' slightly off the port bow.

We have been securing our cargo with additional storm lashings as needed. All departments have been instructed to secure their areas and I will keep you duly notified throughout the remainder of the voyage.

See the below email I sent earlier today

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Afternoon Phil,

I am tracking direct to San Juan, PR. via the Ol' Bahama Channel, which is 160nm more than our normal offshore route.

We are not making the best of speed due to apposing currents and slightly lower than normal rpm, as a result of the "weeping" economizer tube in the port boiler. The CE has taken the edge off the boiler to avoid the possibility of bypassing it.

At departure last evening from JAX, our best eta would have been 08/28/1300. With the above scenario we are realistically looking at 08/28/1800, or possibly later as weather deteriorates.

Latest Issue from USCG Sector San Juan, PR.

08/26/1500: Condition Yankee / The port is closed to all incoming vessel traffic.

08/27/0300: Condition Zulu / The port is closed to all vessel traffic and no cargo operations.

USCG Sector San Juan, PR. has given no projected time when the port would be reopened.

I have reached out to the pilots in hopes of gaining some information with regards to their plans for scheduling vessel traffic once the port reopens. I have received no further information from them...

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Best Regards,  
Mike Davidson, Master.  
El Faro WFJK  
capt.wfjk [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]c

-----Original Message-----

From: JLawrence [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2015 5:07 PM  
To: capt [REDACTED]  
Cc: jfisker [REDACTED]; pfinsterbusch [REDACTED]  
Subject: Erika

Good Day Captain,

I realize that you have been in various communications with Jim Fisker-Andersen and SSL regarding plans/ops in preparation for Erika and I have been copied in same. However, to ensure we are all on same page and nothing is missed in the risk assessments and action area, please send me a detailed email with your preparedness/avoidance plans and update daily until all clear.

Thanks and regards,  
John

Captain John Lawrence|Manager, Safety & Operations| TOTE Services  
10550 Deerwood Park Blvd, Suite 602, Jacksonville, FL 32256  
Cell: [REDACTED]

[cid:image001.jpg@01CF2F1C.634AA5E0]  
Leading Edge Ship Management Solutions

Received: from INT at Globe Wireless;  
Wed, 26 Aug 2015 21:10 UTC  
Message-id: 561005627

Received: from MPD at Globe Wireless;  
Thu, 27 Aug 2015 00:48 UTC  
Message-id: 561056667

**From:** [Lawrence, John](#)  
**To:** [EL FARO](#)  
**Cc:** [Jim Fisker-Andersen](#); [Patty Finsterbusch](#); [Phil Morrell](#)  
**Subject:** RE: El Faro / Vessel Update / Tropical Storm Erika  
**Date:** Friday, August 28, 2015 12:11:57 PM

---

Thank you for your detailed updates Captain.

Regards,  
John

Captain John Lawrence|Manager, Safety & Operations| TOTE Services  
10550 Deerwood Park Blvd, Suite 602, Jacksonville, FL 32256  
Cell: [REDACTED]

Leading Edge Ship Management Solutions

-----Original Message-----

From: EL FARO [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 1:06 PM  
To: Lawrence, John  
Cc: Jim Fisker-Andersen; Patty Finsterbusch; Phil Morrell  
Subject: RE: El Faro / Vessel Update / Tropical Storm Erika

Good Afternoon,

USCG Sector San Juan, PR. has issued the "All Clear".

The below has been confirmed.  
Arrival: 08/28/1600  
Pilot Abd: 08/28/1630  
Docking: DOA.  
Labor Scheduled: 08/28/1900

Best Regards,  
Mike Davidson, Master.  
SS El Faro WFJK  
capt.wfjk [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] c

-----Original Message-----

From: El Faro Master [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 11:09 AM  
To: 'El Faro Master'; 'JLawrence [REDACTED]'  
Cc: 'jfisker [REDACTED]'; 'pfinsterbusch [REDACTED]'; 'pmorrel [REDACTED]'  
Subject: RE: El Faro / Vessel Update / Tropical Storm Erika

Good Morning,

Tropical Storm Erika tracked as forecasted and the vessel did not labor throughout the night.  
The wind and seas are subsiding, the barograph is indicating a slow but steady increase in pressure and our speed

continues to improve. These indicators along with our onboard BVS weather files and the NWS Ocean Prediction Center reports, lead me to believe that we are now on the backside of Erika and the worst has past.

I have reports from San Juan, PR. that meetings are underway to discuss the condition of the port, in regards to issuing the "All Clear". The pilots have two ships scheduled ahead of us, both reporting a 1030 arrival. Our new arrival time should be around 1530 this afternoon.

The vessel's eNOA has been updated and successfully submitted.  
I will keep you duly informed as the day progresses.

Best Regards,  
Mike Davidson, Master.  
SS El Faro WFJK  
capt.wfjk [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] c

-----Original Message-----

From: El Faro Master [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 1:24 PM  
To: 'JLawrence [REDACTED]'; 'jfisher [REDACTED]'; 'pfinsterbusch [REDACTED]'; 'pmorrell [REDACTED]'  
Subject: El Faro / Vessel Update / Tropical Storm Erika

Good Afternoon,

The latest BVS weather file and NWS Ocean Prediction Center for METAreaIV have Erika tracking as forecasted.

Center of TS Erika: 16.3n 63.3w.  
Direction and Speed: Westerly at 15k.  
Barometric Pressure: 1006mb.  
Winds: 45k with gusts up to 55k.  
Seas: 12' - 16' throughout tonight and into tomorrow are expected.

The crew has completed securing cargo as previously mentioned and have been concentrating on securing the accommodation spaces.

I will address the below later today during our monthly safety meeting.

1. After the 1800 reefer rounds are completed the main deck and all cargo decks will be secured for sea until further notice.
  - a. This will be posted on the ship's status boards, located in both of the mess halls.
  - b. I will again notify each department head of the above.
2. Our contracted CE's and riding gang have been instructed to stop and secure their areas by 1800, until further notice.
3. All water tight doors will be secured and will remained dogged until further notice.
4. The 0600 reefer rounds will most likely be suspended.

I will update you tomorrow.

Should you have any questions or concerns, kindly contact this vessel.

Best Regards,  
Mike Davidson, Master.  
SS El Faro WFJK  
capt.wfjk [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] c