ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-24-2015

August 7, 2015

TO: All Shipping Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Draft restriction to 11.89 meters (39.0 feet) on September 8, 2015

As anticipated in Advisory A-21-2015, and based on the best information available at this time, a draft restriction due to the "El Niño" phenomenon being experienced at this time is hereby announced.

Effective September 8, 2015, the maximum authorized transit draft for the Panama Canal is set at 11.89 meters (39.0 feet) Tropical Fresh Water (TFW) as follows:

- Ships loaded prior to August 11, 2015, to a draft over 11.89 meters (39.0 feet) will be waived for transit, subject to safety considerations.
- Ships loaded on or after August 11, 2015, must comply with the restriction and may be required to trim or off-load cargo.

It is anticipated that the maximum authorized transit draft may be further restricted to 11.73 meters (38.5 feet) Tropical Fresh Water (TFW) on September 15, 2015, as follows:

- This draft projection is tentative and is furnished for planning purposes only. A final determination will be based on actual rainfall and lake level data and confirmed through an official OP Advisory to Shipping.
- Should the 11.73 meter (38.5 feet) restriction be implemented on September 15, 2015, ships loaded prior to August 18, 2015 will be waived for transit, subject to safety considerations.
- Ships loaded on and after August 18, 2015, must comply with the restriction and may be required to trim or off-load cargo;
- Implementation of the September 15th restriction will be announced with at least a four-week advance notice.

The maximum authorized transit draft is the deepest point of immersion in Tropical Fresh Water (TFW) permitted for a particular vessel in Gatun Lake. Water density of Gatun Lake is 0.9954 at 29.4° C (85° F). Vessels shall arrive in Canal waters with no list.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

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