



December 14, 2015

LAWA Tenant

Subject: El Niño Preparations at Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA)

At the direction of Mayor Eric Garcetti, LAWA has joined with the City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department to promote an emergency preparedness campaign to City of Los Angeles businesses, employees and residents that informs them of the forecasts and potential impacts for the 2015/16 El Niño season. Airlines that operate at LAWA facilities are asked to work with LAWA Emergency Management Division (LAWA EMD), led by Director Ed Bushman, to address potential issues that may arise during the forecasted severe weather season. LAWA EMD will work to coordinate the various agencies, external stakeholders, and resources to ensure our airports continue to operate during potentially adverse weather conditions and we ask for your participation.

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Executive Director

The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is predicting a greater than 95 percent chance of a strong El Niño weather system for the 2015/16 winter season, which typically brings sustained periods of heavy rainfall. This weather pattern is a worldwide issue and the effects may impact other national and international airports you serve. It is anticipated that from January 2016 – May 2016, the Los Angeles area may receive up to 32" of rain. This significant rainfall may cause power outages, flooding, increased debris flow, impassable roadways, and structural damage at our facilities. Additionally, these conditions may impact departing and arriving flight operations by reducing the passenger flow, creating flight delays, and flight cancellations.

LAWA is committed to providing continuous airport operations at LAX, ONT, and VNY during these potentially adverse weather conditions. LAWA EMD has reached out to the Executive Staff and their managers to identify potential risks in the terminals, airfield, and roadways. The first step towards minimizing the effects of El Niño is to mitigate as many risks prior to rainfall as possible and this will be an ongoing effort. LAWA EMD is in the process of revising LAWA's Severe Weather response plan to ensure that guidelines for LAWA's response and recovery are current before the season begins. LAWA EMD's focus on preparedness, mitigation, and response will ensure that LAWA and its partners can recover quickly and efficiently from the anticipated storm.

LAWA EMD will provide our stakeholders with information on how to prepare for the storm at home and work. LAWA EMD looks forward to working with your company to address staffing plans and preparation plans to minimize adverse impact to airport business and operations.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this effort please feel free to contact our Director of Emergency Management, Edward Bushman at (424) 646-6779 or by email at EBUSHMAN@LAWA.ORG.

Respectfully,

Jacqueline Yaft (EB)

Jacqueline A. Yaft
Deputy Executive Director
Operations, Maintenance & Emergency Management (OMEG)

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