

**From:** Paul Beard pbeard@sup-us.com

**Subject:** RE: The Texas Tribune: Some Fear Texas Missing Historic Opportunity in Panama Canal Expansion

**Date:** December 1, 2015 at 3:18 PM

**To:** Carl Griffith carlgriffith@gmjinc.com, Randall Reese rreese@navigationdistrict.org, Paul Beard pbeard@sabineuniversalproducts.com, Vernon Pierce HPIERCE@entergy.com, Jeff Moseley jeffmoseley@gmjinc.com, Jeff Branick jbranick@co.jefferson.tx.us

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The completion of the Panama Canal project is far behind due to defective construction, so it may be complete by end of 2016 if they don't find more problems.

Container vessels will be the main ones that will draft 50 feet, and they would not be coming to Sabine-Neches Waterway since there is no infrastructure here to support container terminals. A huge benefit to the LNG producers is that it will cut transit time to the Orient from something like 63 days to 47 days, very significant. If ever we are allowed to export crude oil again it would provide the same advantage for oil going to the West Coast or the Orient.

May provide some competitive advantage for import of certain dry bulk cargoes.

Paul Beard  
Board Chairman  
Sabine-Neches Navigation District

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

From: Carl Griffith [mailto:carlgriffith@gmjinc.com]

Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2015 10:59 AM

To: Randall Reese <rreese@navigationdistrict.org>; Paul Beard <pbeard@sabineuniversalproducts.com>; Vernon Pierce <HPIERCE@entergy.com>; Jeff Moseley <jeffmoseley@gmjinc.com>; Jeff Branick <jbranick@co.jefferson.tx.us>

Subject: The Texas Tribune: Some Fear Texas Missing Historic Opportunity in Panama Canal Expansion

I read an article that you might be interested in at The Texas Tribune: Some Fear Texas Missing Historic Opportunity in Panama Canal Expansion, by Aman Batheja.

<http://www.texastribune.org/2015/12/01/some-fear-texas-unprepared-panama-canal-expansion/>

In 2006, Panama voters agreed to modernize their famed canal, allowing it to handle more ships and, crucially, bigger ones. Next year, the expanded Panama Canal is expected to finally open. Is Texas ready?