

Technical Problems with Lighthouse Optic

The light at the top of the Cape St. George Lighthouse is currently extinguished for maintenance work.

The Vega VLB-44 LED optic began experiencing intermittent outages last week. Maintenance director Mark Vail was able to coax the light back on several times, but after several days it went dark permanently. The power source, connections, and other components that could be tested locally were tested and no failures were found.

Technicians at manufacturer Vega in New Zealand, which manufactures most modern optics used by the U.S. Coast Guard, suspect that the outage is due to a drive board failure. The optic will be removed, crated, and shipped to New Zealand for repair.

It is anticipated that the outage will not exceed 45 days in duration. Because the Cape St. George Light is a Private Aid to Navigation, the U.S. Coast Guard has been notified of the issue and will be kept updated as to the progress of restoring the light to working order.

Posted by Kemp Terry - Monday, 02/01/16, 01:21 PM