

PROJECT FACT SHEET
Lock and Dam 5
Allegheny River

Project Description

Facility is located 30.4 miles upriver from Pittsburgh, at Freeport, PA. It was built in 1920-1927 and began operations in 1927. It is comprised of a 632 foot fixed crest dam, and a single 360ft x 56ft lock chamber. Its 11.8 foot vertical lift is also used to operate a 9.5MW privately owned and operated hydropower facility.



Transportation Importance to the System

L/D 5 is the third of eight navigation facilities on the Allegheny River. Each year from 2000 to 2005, Lock 5 passed over 1,650 recreation vessels, 650 commercial tows, and 0.6 million tons of cargo. Cargo consists of coal, petroleum, chemicals, crude materials, manufactured goods, farm products, manufactured machinery, and other commodities. The principal commodities at Lock 5 are crude materials such as stone, sand, gravel, and cement. Construction and supply companies use this facility to move raw materials throughout the region. The transportation savings associated with this facility from 2000 to 2005 averaged \$5.1 million a year.

Risk of economic impacts of unscheduled lock outages

Failure to provide adequate funding to maintain this facility will have significant detrimental effects to the local and regional economy. Failure of the dam or any critical lock component will result in increased transportation costs and delays to the shipment of critical raw materials for power production, manufacturing, and other commercial activities. Failure of dam will likely stop navigation, halt operation of a 9.5MW hydropower facility, and impact municipal and commercial water supplies until an emergency repair can be achieved.

Description of Work included in Optimum Plan

The projected 5 year (FY 2008 through FY 2012) average cost to operate and maintain Lock 5 at an acceptable level of risk is \$1.3M per year. Maintenance items include maintenance, repair, and/or replacement of lock operating equipment; lock valves; lock walls; and hydraulic systems. These costs are above and beyond the routine day to day maintenance of all system components.