

PROJECT FACT SHEET
Lock and Dam 9
Allegheny River

Project Description

Facility is located 62.2 miles upriver from Pittsburgh, near Rimer, PA. It was built in 1935-1938 and began operations in October 1938. It is comprised of a 918 foot fixed crest dam, and a single 360ft x 56ft lock chamber. Its 22 foot vertical lift is also used to operate a 18 MW privately owned and operated hydropower facility.



Transportation Importance

L/D 9 is the last of eight navigation facilities on the Allegheny River. Lock 9 primarily supports recreation traffic averaging over 800 vessels per year. Commercial traffic passing Lock 9 has only averaged 12 vessels per year for the last 6 years. Lock 9 has not passed any commercial cargo the past 6 years.

Risk of economic impacts of unscheduled lock outages

Failure to provide adequate funding to maintain this facility will have little or no effect to commercial transportation costs associated with this facility. Failure of the dam or a lock component which results in the loss of pool will halt operation of a 18MW hydropower facility and will likely 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 9 at an acceptable level of risk is under \$200K per year. There is no maintenance work planned after FY07 until FY2015. The FY07 work package includes maintenance, repair, and/or replacement of lock operating equipment; lock gates, anchorages, and sills; lock valves; lock walls; and hydraulic system. These costs are above and beyond the routine day to day maintenance of all system components.