

PROJECT FACT SHEET
Maxwell Locks and Dam
Monongahela River

Project Description

Facility is located 61.2 miles above the mouth of the Monongahela at Pittsburgh, in Maxwell, PA. It was built from 1960-1965. It is comprised of a 460 foot gated dam, a 84ft x 720ft land side lock, and a 84ft x 720ft river side lock which provide for a 19.5 foot vertical lift.

Transportation Importance to the System

Maxwell L/D is the fourth of nine navigation facilities on the Monongahela River. From 2000 to 2005, Maxwell Locks passed over 1,800 recreation vessels, 3,800 commercial tows, and over 12.6 million tons of cargo. Cargo consists of coal, petroleum, chemicals, crude materials, manufactured goods, farm products, manufactured machinery, and other commodities. Coal is the principal commodity at Maxwell Locks. Electric utilities move coal from mines in Pennsylvania and Ohio to power plants serving the mid-Atlantic, southeastern and midwestern regions of the United States. Steel companies move coal from West Virginia and Kentucky mines to coking facilities on the Monongahela River. Construction and supply companies use this facility to move raw materials into the region. Average annual transportation cost savings associated with this facility from 2000 to 2005 is over \$79.4 million.



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 in the main or auxiliary chambers, or both, will result in increased transportation costs and delays to the shipment of critical raw materials for power production, manufacturing, and other commercial activities.

Description of Work included in Optimum Plan

The projected 5 year (FY 2008 through FY 2012) average cost to operate and maintain Maxwell Locks and Dam at an acceptable level of risk is \$3.8M per year. Maintenance items include maintenance, repair, and/or replacement of lock operating equipment; lock gates, anchorages, and sills; lock valves; lock walls; dam operating equipment, and hydraulic systems. These costs are above and beyond the routine day to day maintenance of all system components.