# Guntersville Lock

Tennessee River, Grant, AL

## Project Features

- Guntersville Lock is located 75.7 river miles downstream from Nickajack Lock and 74.1 river miles upstream from Wheeler Lock. The nearest community to the dam is Grant, AL.
- Authorization: Authorized by the TVA Board of Directors, November 19, 1934, the Flood Control Act of 1938 and the Rivers and Harbor Act of 1946. Primary authorized purposes are navigation, flood control, and production of hydroelectric power
- Guntersville Dam is a concrete gravity dam that measures 3,979 feet. The power plant section of the dam contains four generating units capable of producing 124 megawatts. The spillway section contains 18 tainter gates. The project has two lock chambers measuring 600'x110' and 360'x60'.
- The Guntersville pool covers 890 miles of shoreline and 67,900 acres of water surface along a 75 mile stretch of the Tennessee River through parts of AL and TN. Guntersville Lake is fed by releases from TVA's Nickajack Dam, system in addition to unregulated flows from various smaller tributaries.
- Like all lock facilities on the Tennessee River, Guntersville Lock is owned by the Tennessee Valley Authority and operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

## Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Failure to provide adequate funding to maintain this facility will have significant effects to the local and regional economy including: increased transportation costs and delays to the shipment of raw materials; reduced power production capabilities; and also a significant impact to the economy throughout AL and TN due to the shipping of goods that rely on the Tennessee River to the Port of Guntersville.

## Regional Importance

- Guntersville Lock passes over 3,000 government, commercial, and recreational vessels each year, carrying 4.3 million tons of cargo to the heart of the nation with major importance to the Tennessee Valley and the Port of Guntersville as well as the Port of Chattanooga. Cargo consists of coal, petroleum, crude materials, manufactured goods, farm products, chemicals, machinery, and other commodities.

**Additional Information**

- 2015 lock tonnage (in thousands) 3,733
- National Rank: 119
- Current Miter Gate In Service Date: 1965
- Projected Year Lock Miter Gates Reach "F" Condition: Main: 2023 Auxiliary: 2027
- Projected Miter Gate Replacement: Main: 2033 Auxiliary: 2041

**Congressional Interests**

Senator Richard Shelby, R-TN
Senator Luther Strange, R-TN
Representative Robert Aderholt, R-AL-4