Allegheny 6 Lock and Dam

Allegheny River, PA

Project Features

• Authorization: River and Harbors Acts of 1912.

• Allegheny 6 Lock and Dam was built in 1927-1928 and began operations in October 1928.

• Primary project purpose is navigation.

• The project has a non-navigable, 992 foot long fixed crest and a single 360ft x 56ft lock chamber which provides a 12.2 foot vertical lift.

• Sithe Energies operates a hydropower Facility on the abutment that has two turbines rated at 4.75 MW each. The combined discharge capacity of both units is approximately 12,000 cfs.

• The lock is an IMTS level 6 facility offering commercial lockages by appointment only.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

• Failure to maintain the project could result in a halt in the movement of commercial navigation. That stoppage would result in loss of rate savings to the shippers and delayed orders for essential commodities including fuel for power plants and raw materials for major industries.

• In addition to the loss of the navigation purpose, pool loss could jeopardize water supply for municipal and industrial users, loss of electrical energy produced by hydropower plants at the dams, and lead to the loss of habitat for aquatic species. Such a pool loss could affect both recreation users and water quality should there be a prolonged loss.

Regional Importance

• Cargo consists of coal, petroleum, chemicals, crude materials, manufactured goods, farm products, manufactured machinery, and other commodities.

• In 2016, there were 19 commercial vessels and 500 recreation vessels locked through Lock and Dam 6 on the Allegheny River.

• The principal commodity at Lock 6 crude materials such as stone, sand, gravel, and cement.

• Construction and supply companies use this facility to move raw materials throughout the region.

• Singles up and down lock time is approximately 27 minutes up and down.

• The facility has a 9.5MW hydropower facility.

Additional Information

- 2015 lock tonnage: Insignificant
- National Rank: 160
- Current Miter Gate In Service Date: 1992
- Projected Year Lock Miter Gates Reach "F" Condition: 2052
- Projected Miter Gate Replacement: Downstream: 2064 Upstream: 2064
- Fee Lands: 7.2 acres
- Flowage Easement Lands: 41.9 acres

Congressional Interests

Senator Bob Casey Jr., D-PA
Senator Pat Toomey, R-PA
Representative Mike Kelly, R-PA-3