Allegheny 8 Lock and Dam

Allegheny River, PA

Project Features

• Authorization: River and Harbors Acts of 1912.

• Allegheny 8 Lock and Dam was built in 1928-1931 and began operations in May 1931.

• Primary project purpose is navigation.

• The project has a non-navigable, 916 foot long fixed crest and a single 360ft x 56ft lock chamber which provides a 17.9 foot vertical lift.

• Sithe Energies operates a hydropower Facility on the abutment that has two turbines rated at 6.8 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.

Regional Importance

• Singles up and down lock time is approximately 23 minutes up and down.

• In 2016, there were 889 recreation vessels locked through Lock and Dam 8 on the Allegheny River.

• The facility has a 13.6MW hydropower facility.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

• 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 13.6MW hydropower facility and will likely impact municipal and commercial water supplies until an emergency repair can be achieved.

Additional Information

- 2015 lock tonnage: none
- National Rank: N/A
- Current Miter Gate In Service Date: 1994
- Projected Year Lock Miter Gates Reach "F" Condition: 2060
- Projected Miter Gate Replacement: Downstream: 2073 Upstream: 2073
- Fee Lands: 7.9 acres
- Flowage Easement Lands: 73.2 acres

Congressional Interests

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