Locks and Dam 3

Elizabeth, PA

Project Features

• Authorization: Rivers and Harbors Act dated 3 March 1905. Land chamber lengthening to 720 was authorized by Water Resources Development Act dated 22 September 1992.

• Locks and Dam 3 was built from 1905-1907 and rehabilitation was completed in 1980.

• The dam is comprised of a 670 ft fixed crest dam, a 720 ft X 56 ft land side lock, and a 360 ft X 56 ft river side lock which provide for a 8.2 ft vertical lift.

• A channel depth of 9 ft. and width of 300 is required for navigation. Maintenance channel dredging is performed annually.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

• Locks and Dam 3 is part of the Lower Mon Project which has modernized Braddock Locks and Dam, is in the process of modernizing Lock and Dam 4, Charleroi, and will remove Lock and Dam 3, Elizabeth.

Regional Importance

• Annually there are 13.9M tons of cargo and over 6,000 commercial vessels and 1,200 recreational vessels locked through the project. Cargo consists mainly of coal but other commodities include petroleum, iron/steel, grains, manufactured goods, farm products, chemicals, ores/minerals, and other commodities.

• Electric utilities move coal from mines in Pennsylvania and Ohio to power plants serving the mid-Atlantic, Southeastern and Midwestern regions of the country. Steel companies move coal from West Virginia and Kentucky moves to coking facilities above Locks and Dam 3. Construction companies move stone, sand and gravel, and cement into the region through Locks and Dam 3. These and other shippers that rely on Locks and Dam 3 realized an average annual transportation cost savings in excess of $95M.

Additional Information

- 2015 lock tonnage (in thousands) 9,092
- National Rank: 65
- Current Miter Gate In Service Date: 1998
- Projected Year Lock Miter Gates Reach "F" Condition: 2019
- Projected Miter Gate Replacement: Downstream: 2021 Upstream: 2021
- Fee Lands: 1.67 acres
- Flowage Easement Lands: 14.07 acres

Congressional Interests

Senator Bob Casey Jr., D-PA
Senator Pat Toomey, R-PA
Representative Tim Murphy, R-PA-18