Grays Landing Lock and Dam

Masontown, PA

Project Features

• Authorization: Supplemental Appropriation Act of 1985 for Engineering and Design and Land Acquisition, and Water Resources Development Act of 1986, 99th Congress dated 13 November 1986 Public Law 99-662 for construction.

• Grays Landing Lock and Dam, on the Monongahela River, was built from 1986-1995. It is comprised of a 576 ft fixed crest dam and a 84 ft X 720 ft lock which provides for a 15 ft vertical lift.

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

Regional Importance

• Annually there are 5.3M tons of cargo and over 1,600 commercial vessels and 1,150 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 Grays Landing Lock and Dam. Construction companies move stone, sand and gravel, and cement into the region through these locks. These and other shippers that rely on Grays Landing Lock and Dam realized an average annual transportation cost savings in excess of $33.1M.

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 and could 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.

Additional Information

- 2015 lock tonnage (in thousands) 2,533
- National Rank: 128
- Current Miter Gate In Service Date: 1993
- Projected Year Lock Miter Gates Reach "F" Condition: 2082
- Projected Miter Gate Replacement: 2090
- Fee Lands: 80.93 acres
- Flowage Easement Lands: 515.58 acres

Congressional Interests

Senator Bob Casey Jr., D-PA
Senator Pat Toomey, R-PA
Representative Bill Shuster, R-PA-9