



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Pittsburgh District

Upper Ohio River Navigation Study, PA

Purpose: Navigation
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Project Location:
Pennsylvania
PA Congressional Districts:
09, 12, 14, 18

Description

The Upper Ohio River Navigation Feasibility Study addresses lock condition and capacity issues at Emsworth, Dashields, and Montgomery (EDM) Locks and Dams on the Ohio River in Pennsylvania. All three facilities were constructed between 1919 and 1936, and each underwent a major rehabilitation in the 1980s to extend their useful life another 25 years. The present study evaluated alternatives for providing safe, reliable, and efficient navigation through 2074. The study report recommends replacement of each auxiliary lock with construction of one new lock chamber (110' wide by 600' long) at each facility riverward of the existing landside main lock chamber. Total cost of the Recommend Plan at the October 2014 price level is \$2.3 billion with \$272.5 million of incremental annual net benefits. The incremental Benefit/Cost ratio is 4.3 to 1.



Conceptual image of recommended plan at Montgomery Locks and Dam (similar plan at Emsworth and Dashields)

Status

The Final Feasibility Report and Integrated Environmental Impact Statement was distributed on June 8, 2016, for 30-day State and Agency review, and for the final National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review. The NEPA comment period will close on July 17, 2016. Following these final public reviews, Headquarters, US Army Corps of Engineers, will perform a final policy review before the Chief of Engineers signs and forwards the Chief's Report and the unsigned NEPA Record of Decision to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works for processing and endorsement to the Administration.

Issues and Other Information

The feasibility study concluded that there will be a 50% probability of unsatisfactory performance at the EDM facilities as early as 2028. Implementation of the Recommended Plan would require a minimum of 8 years per project given efficient funding levels (2 years for Preconstruction, Engineering, & Design and 6 years for construction). The Recommended Plan will have little impact on navigation traffic during construction periods. Average annual traffic through these facilities is between 18 and 19 million tons per year.

Financial Data	Amount
Estimated Federal Study Cost	\$17,772,116
Allocations thru FY 2015	\$17,772,116
Allocations in FY 2016	\$0
President's Budget FY17	\$0

Sponsor: N/A for feasibility study. Construction will be cost-shared 50/50 with the Inland Waterways Trust Fund

Authority: Resolutions by the Committee on Public Works [and Transportation] May 16, 1955, and March 11, 1982. Additional authorization provided via PL 91-611, Section 216, 1970.

