Notice to Navigation Interests

Locks and Dam 4, Monongahela River, Mile 41.5
Permanent Closure of River Lock Chamber and
24-Hour Closures of Land Lock Chamber

1. **TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:** Notice is given that Choi Enterprises, Incorporated, a contractor for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will start work to demolish the 56ft x 360ft river lock chamber at Lock 4, Monongahela River. The small 56ft x 360ft river lock chamber will be permanently closed on or about April 12, 2004. The large 56ft x 720ft lock chamber will be the only means to transit Charleroi until construction of the new 84ft x 720ft river chamber is completed in about 10-12 years.

2. There are two (2) 24-hour closures scheduled for the land chamber starting at 8:00 AM, April 12 through 8:00 AM, April 13 and from 8:00 AM, April 15 through 8:00 AM, April 16. These lock closures are necessary to isolate and disconnect service systems (electric, hydraulic, air, and water) from the lock. During these two 24-hour periods no navigation traffic will be able to pass through Lock 4 at Charleroi.

3. One of the first phases of work will be construction of a pivot cell located 430 feet upstream of the land wall and a protection cell located 195 feet upstream of the middle wall bull nose. Construction is scheduled to start on the pivot cell about April 12, 2004 and on the protection cell about April 26, 2004. This work should take about 5 weeks to complete. It is anticipated there will be periodic 2-hour closures of the locks during the work period. A helper boat will be provided to assist vessels to avoid damage to the cells while under construction. The helper boat will be stationed in the upstream approach, and will be on site and ready for use with all necessary crews 24 hours a day, 7 days per week, until both cells are complete and operational. To request the assistance of the helper boats contact the lock.
4. Recreational boaters are advised that extremely long delays locking through may be encountered since priority will be given to scheduled commercial passenger vessels and commercial tows.

5. Navigators are requested to use caution when entering or leaving the land chamber to prevent an accident which would completely shutdown the lock.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

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Richard C. Lockwood  
Chief, Operations and Readiness Division