LOCK & Dam 19 Mississippi River, Keokuk, Iowa

Construction:

Davenport, Iowa

1952-1957

General Contractors:

Description

Lock 19 is 364.2 miles above the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers.

The lock, located on the lowa shore,

is 110 feet wide and 1,200 feet long, twice the size of the standard 9-Foot Channel Project lock. The upper lock gates consist of 23-foot high vertical lift gates, and the lower gates are miter gates, 53-feet 2-inches high. The lower lock gates are conventional miter gates, while the upper service gate is a submergible lift gate. Upstream from the upper service gate is a submergible vertical-lift guard gate which serves as an emergency gate in case of failure of the service gate. This gate also serves as a bridge in the roadway to the old dry dock, old lock, powerhouse and dam.

The lock's land wall is 2,161 feet long, consisting of an upper 237-foot and lower 605-foot guidewall, and a 1,319-foot main lock wall. The river wall is 1,936 feet, which includes a 532-foot wall downstream of the lower gate pintles.

Maximum lift is 38.2 feet with an average of 36.3 feet, the second highest on the Mississippi River. The highest lift of any lock on the River is at the Upper St. Anthony Falls in the St. Paul District. Filling the lock takes approximately 10 minutes; 9.25 minutes to empty. It takes 12 hours for water to travel from Lock and Dam 18, in Gladstone, III., to Lock and Dam 19. Pool 19 is the longest of the nine-foot channel navigation system.

An auxiliary lock, which was the original lock completed on June 12 1913, is 110 feet wide by 358 feet long. This lock is no longer in service. The dry dock, also no longer in use, measures 150 feet wide by 463 feet long. The dam, privately built in 1913, includes 119 rectangular sliding gates. The dam is privately owned and operated by Ameren Missouri. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has no oversight or control of the dam's operation.

Omaha, Nebraska

Stage II: Jones Construction Company, Charlotte, N.C.

Stage III: Oil Gear Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Stage I: McCarthy Improvement Company

Stage IV: Evans Electrical Construction Co.,

Lock and Dam 19 Commodity Tonnage (2022)

Total Tonnage	17,666,910
Unknown or Not Elsewhere Classified	4,800
Waste Material	
Manufactured Equipment & Machinery	35,250
Coal, Lignite, and Coal Coke	163,500
Petroleum and Petroleum Products	645,560
Primary Manufactured Goods	1,167,200
Crude Materials, Inedible, Except Fuels	1,186,340
Chemicals and Related Products	3,731,470
Food and Farm Products	10,732,790

Annual Tonnage (10 Year- Historical)





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History/Significance

The lock opened on May 14, 1957. The complex was not built as part of the original 9-foot channel project. After the turn of the 19th century, the Mississippi River Power Company asked Congress for permission to build a dam across the River at Keokuk, Iowa. In 1905 Congress authorized the design and construction of the project. Construction began in 1910 and the completed lock was turned over to the federal government on June 12, 1913. The new lock was 110 feet wide by 400-feet long. The entire facility was constructed without government subsidy.

Due to significant growth of commercial river traffic and long waits by tows, Congress appropriated \$994,000 in 1952 to begin construction of a new lock. In October 1952, the peak number of men employed during Stage I construction was 147 with a peak

employment of 415 in 1955 and 1956. Due to abnormally good weather and low water stages, Stage I work was always ahead of schedule. Some high water stages in fall 1954 caused Stage II construction to fall behind schedule by approximately 30 days. All contracts were completed approximately four months behind schedule, primarily due to excessive amounts of rain occurring in May, June and July 1957. The new Lock 19 was completed at a cost of \$13,500,000. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Union Electric Company completed the entire complex at a federal cost of \$37,909,000.

There has been no major rehabilitation efforts at Lock 19 since it was put in service. Since 2017, the guard gate and service gate have been replaced. The control system is scheduled to be replaced in 2023.

Vessel & Lockage Data (2021)

Average Delay - Tows (Hours)	0.95
Barges Empty	5,446
Barges Loaded	12,363
Commercial Vessels	1,733
Commercial Lockages	1,703
Other Vessels	28
Other Lockages	25
Recreational Vessels	563
Recreational Lockages	429
Total Vessels	2,324
Total Lockages	2,157

The 9-Foot Channel Navigation Project

The 9-foot Channel Navigation Project includes 37 lock and dam sites (42 locks) on 1,200 river miles in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri and Wisconsin. Constructed largely in the 1930s, it extends from Minneapolis-St. Paul on the Upper Mississippi River to its confluence with the Ohio River near Cairo, Illinois, and up the Illinois Waterway to the T.J. O'Brien Lock in Chicago.

The system is often compared to a stairway with the "treads" being the pools of water created by each dam, with the locks serving as "risers," carrying boats from one river pool to the next like an elevator. This system of locks and dams provides what the rivers in their natural states couldn't – a dependable nine-foot depth for commercial navigation.

Operating the locks and dams is a continuous job as tows and recreational vessels lock through year-round, if weather conditions permit. The structures have long outlived their life expectancy but continue to operate efficiently thanks to the hard work and dedication of USACE employees who operate and maintain the structures.

The inland waterway navigation system is essential to the economy of the Midwest as well as the nation and world. More than 580 facilities ship and receive commodities within the Nation's Corn Belt Ports Statistical Area. Grains (corn and soybeans) dominate traffic; cement and concrete products are the second largest group. A modern 15-barge tow transports the equivalent of 1,050 semi-trucks (26,250 tons, 937,387 bushels of corn, or 240 rail cars). On an annual basis, the 9-foot channel project provides billions of dollars in transportation cost savings to the navigation industry.

