



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Pittsburgh District

# PUBLIC MEETING INVITE

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## **Army Corps to Hold Public Meeting Nov. 18 to discuss Allegheny Lock and Dam 6 *Brayman Construction wins contract for emergency repairs***

PITTSBURGH -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh, will hold a public meeting in Kittanning, Pa., from 7 to 8:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 18, to report progress on its emergency repairs at Allegheny Lock and Dam 6. The event will be held at Eagles Lodge, 212 S Water St., Kittanning, PA 16201, and include a presentation from Corps officials and a question and answer session.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh, is taking urgent measures to address severe erosion discovered at Allegheny River Lock and Dam #6 near Freeport, Pa. during a recent dive inspection. The erosion, or scour, threatens to undermine the stability of the dam at the navigation facility. The main concern is the impact a barge collision or ice loads may have on the dam. High river flows may also threaten stability.

Brayman Construction Corporation, Saxonburg, Pa., won the nearly \$3-million emergency contract to repair a severe erosion problem at the dam. The contractor is expected to begin repairs the third week of November. The repair plan will address a scoured area beneath the dam by installing a steel sheet pile wall, filling the void with grout, and placing additional erosion control material, such as derrick stone, along the downstream toe of the dam.

Pittsburgh District officials stress that there is no immediate threat to public safety and the facility is currently operational. The district has implemented additional measures to ensure the risk of failure is minimized and the facility is operated safely until a permanent fix can be constructed. These procedures include 24/7 staffing, hourly gage checks, and local emergency and water management coordination.

A dam failure at Allegheny Lock and Dam #6 could have serious impacts for the region. A loss of the pool would shut down commercial and recreational navigation on the river until the dam is replaced or repaired. Severe water quality degradation for the first week would impact water intakes and sanitary facilities. A hydropower facility located at the dam may suffer severe damage and cease operations. One of the largest wetlands in the upper Ohio River Basin navigation system -- the Cogley's Island Complex downstream of Kittanning, Pa. -- would be dewatered and potentially lost. It is highly possible that federally listed mussel species could be negatively impacted.

Allegheny River Lock & Dam #6 is one of eight navigation facilities on the Allegheny River. All the facilities require critical repairs as do several on the Ohio and Monongahela Rivers, according to a recent Corps assessment. In a State of the Infrastructure event held in July, the Pittsburgh District reported that the state of the navigation system is not good for the nation's oldest, largest and most fatigued navigation system in the Army Corps' inland waterways inventory.

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