**Project Fact Sheet**

**Melvin Price Lock and Dam, IL & MO**

**US Army Corps of Engineers**

St. Louis District

**Location:** Melvin Price Lock and Dam is located in Madison County, Illinois, and St. Charles County, Missouri, at approximately mile 200.8 above the mouth of the Ohio River.

**Description:** The project includes one 1,200-foot lock; one 600-foot lock (authorized separately); a dam with nine tainter gates; an overflow dike; removal of most of the original structure; relocation/abandonment of the Burlington Northern Railroad Bridge; and a visitor center. Mitigation lands were provided to compensate for wildlife losses due to creation of a new pool for the two-mile distance downstream of the original structure. Recreation facilities continue to be cost-shared with the City of Alton, Illinois, consistent with applicable authorizations.

**Issues:** Uncontrolled underseepage, with the conveyance of some soils material, is occurring during normal operating conditions under the Wood River Levee (WRL) adjacent to the upper pool of Melvin Price Locks and Dam. Current conditions place the WRL at an unacceptable level of risk. A limited reevaluation report (LRR) was approved in 2012 that recommended permanent underseepage controls. Design was initiated and subsurface exploration revealed that the identified solution would not be feasible. A supplemental report, scheduled for approval in FY16, will incorporate risk assessment guidelines per ER 1110-2-1156 and follow Flood Risk Management/Levee Safety regulations for completing the planning effort. Interim risk reduction measures (IRRMs) are in place to provide levee stability, but are very costly to operate.

**Importance:** The Melvin Price Locks and Dam performs over 6,000 lockages each year for vessels carrying goods on the Upper Mississippi River between St. Louis and St. Paul and Chicago.

**Risk:** If the portion of the Wood River levee that is adjacent to Melvin Price were to fail, the lower flank levee could also fail, creating a side channel around the dam with resulting loss of navigation on the Mississippi River.

**Consequence:** Failure of the levee system could cause disruption to Mississippi River navigation and major transportation routes, environmental contamination from the inundation of industrial facilities, and loss of life.

**Activities for FY 15:** Funds will be used to repay a portion of the City of Alton’s Recreation Funds Reimbursement, continue the Levee System Evaluation Report, implement IRRMs, continue the supplemental report, and monitor the IRRM, as needed.

**Acquisition Strategy:** No contracts are scheduled to be awarded in FY 15.

**Amount That Could Be Used in FY 16:** Funds will be used to finalize the supplemental report and to execute and monitor the IRRM, as needed.

**Project Sponsor/Customer:** City of Alton, Illinois, will cost-share the recreation facilities (50/50).

**Congressional Interest:** Senate: Durbin and Kirk (IL); House: Bost (IL-12), Shimkus (IL-15) and Davis (IL-13).

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<th>Phase</th>
<th>FY 15 Allocation</th>
<th>FY 16 Budget</th>
<th>FY 16 Total Capability</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$2,100,000(^1)</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
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\(^1\) Deficiency Correction capability was reduced to $2.1M. This amount excludes the additional $1.5M allocated in FY15 to reimburse the City of Alton for development of recreation facilities associated with the original project, not the Deficiency Correction.