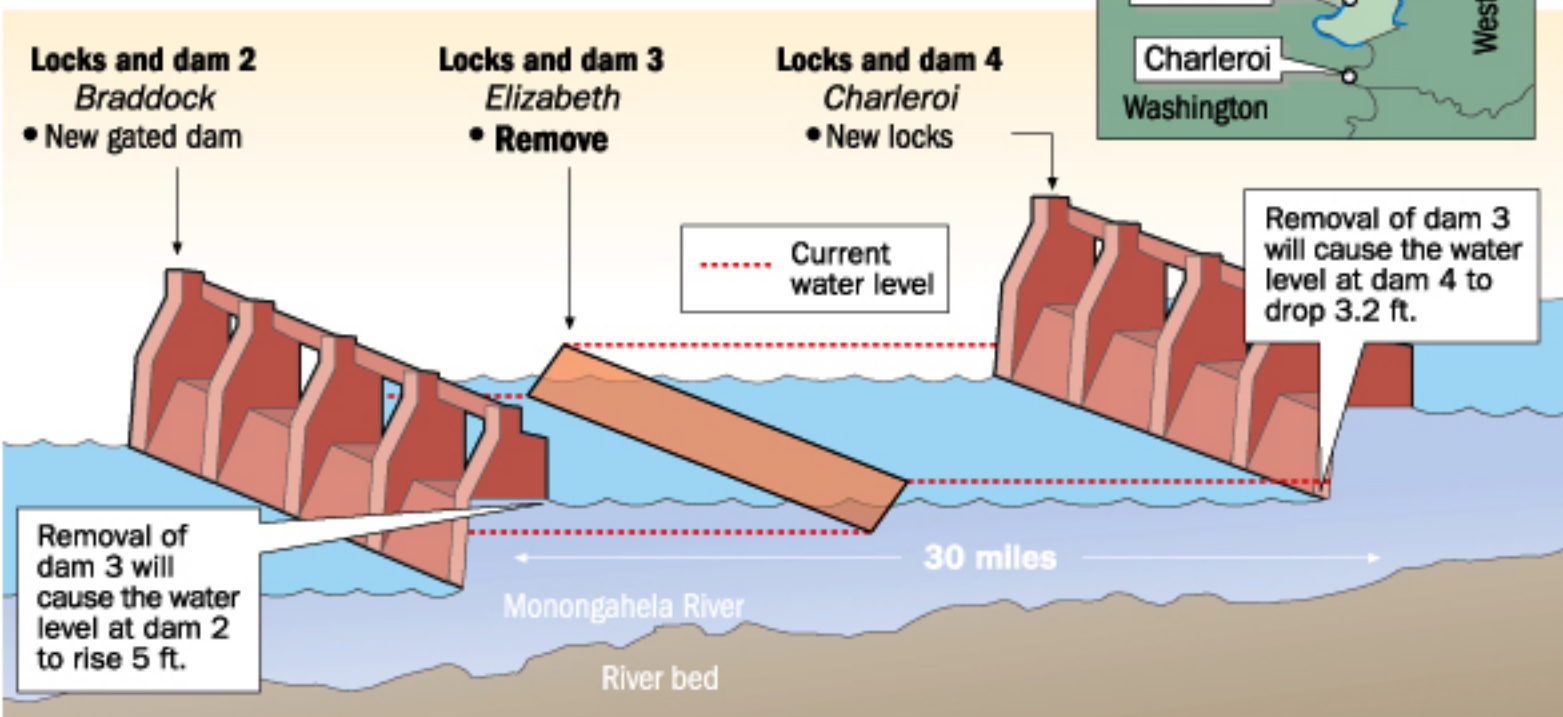


Removal of aging dam

The locks and dams on the lower Monongahela River are among the oldest operating navigational facilities on the nation's inland water system.



Reasons for upgrades and removal

The locks and dam at Elizabeth and the lock wall at Charleroi are built on wooden foundations*. After nearly 100 years of progressive degradation, these structures are highly prone to failures that would prevent the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from maintaining a suitable depth of water within the river for safe navigation or lockages. Depending on the nature and extent of a failure, transporters of commercial goods along the river could experience significant economic loss. The river is critical to the economic transport of coal from the coal fields of southwestern Pennsylvania and northwestern West Virginia and for the movement into the region of fuels and other commodities.

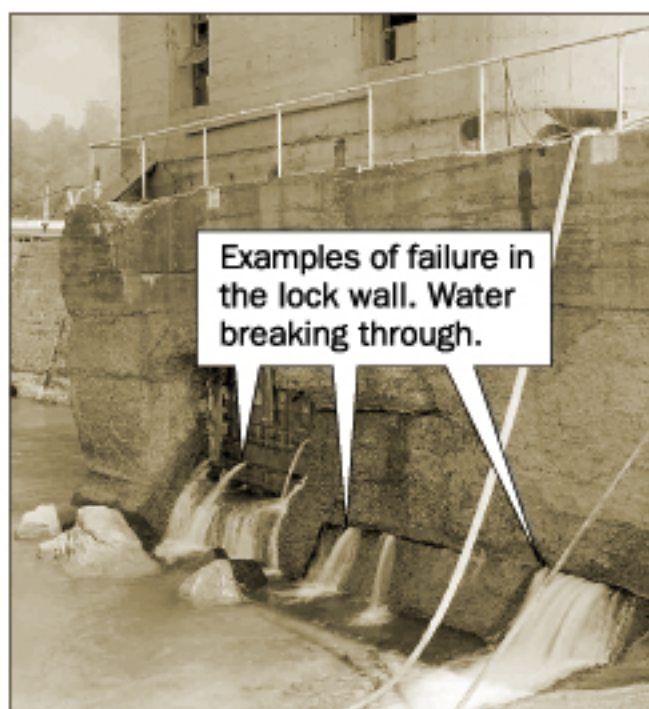


Photo taken Sept. 22, 1939

