

# Ohio River Navigation: Economic Impacts and Engineering Reliability

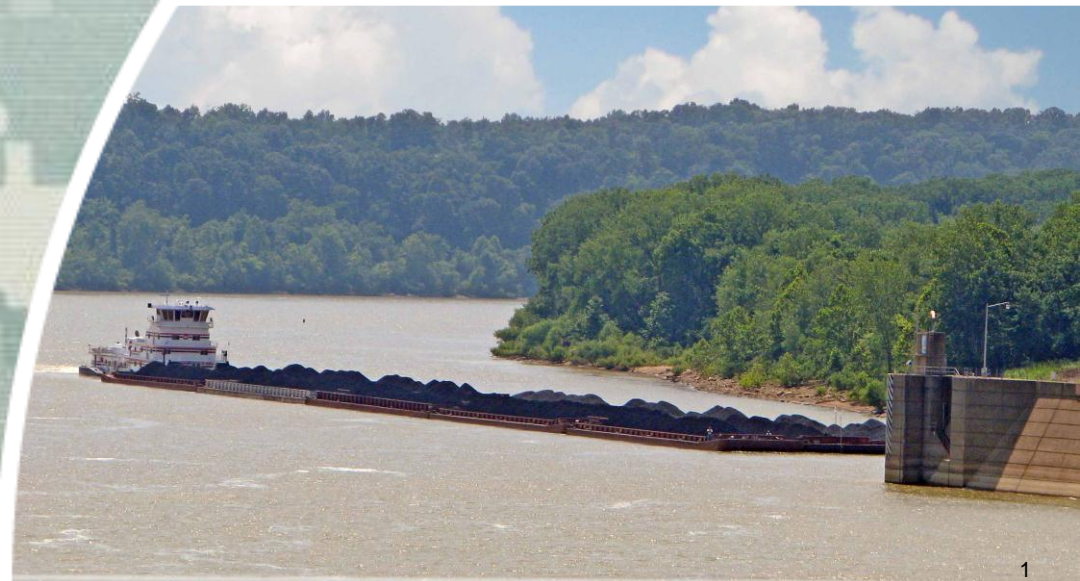
KSPE Annual Convention  
29 April 2011  
Covington, KY

Mark Hammond  
USACE Planning Center of Expertise  
for Inland Navigation (PCXIN)



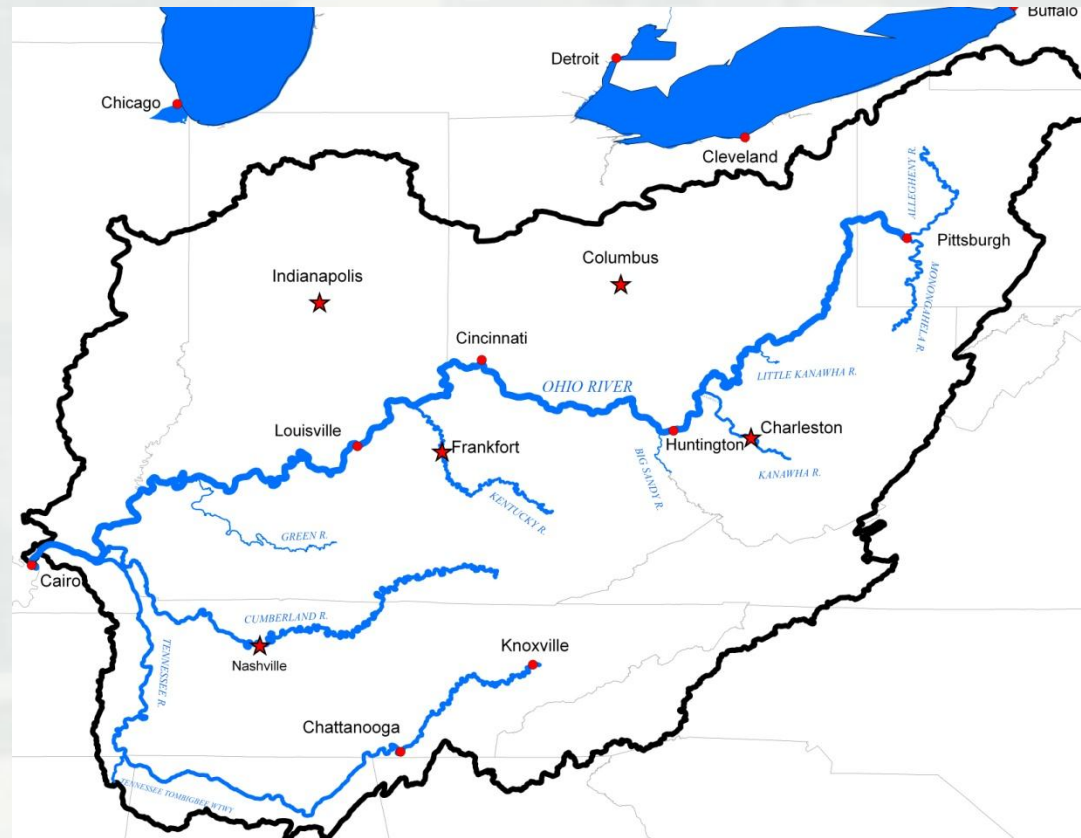
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# Ohio River Basin

- 204,000 sq miles
- all or part of 14 states
- 25 million people
- Six major population centers
- 2,600 miles of navigable waterways
- year-round navigation
- extensive coal deposits, limestone reserves, fertile soils, natural gas, woodlands
- industrial water supply



# How is the Inland Waterway System being used now?

- ◆ Primarily used for moving **bulk and break-bulk commodities** regionally and nationally:

- Coal
- Aggregates
- Petroleum
- Chemicals
- Steel products
- Minerals and ores
- Fertilizer
- Grains
- Machinery
- Cement

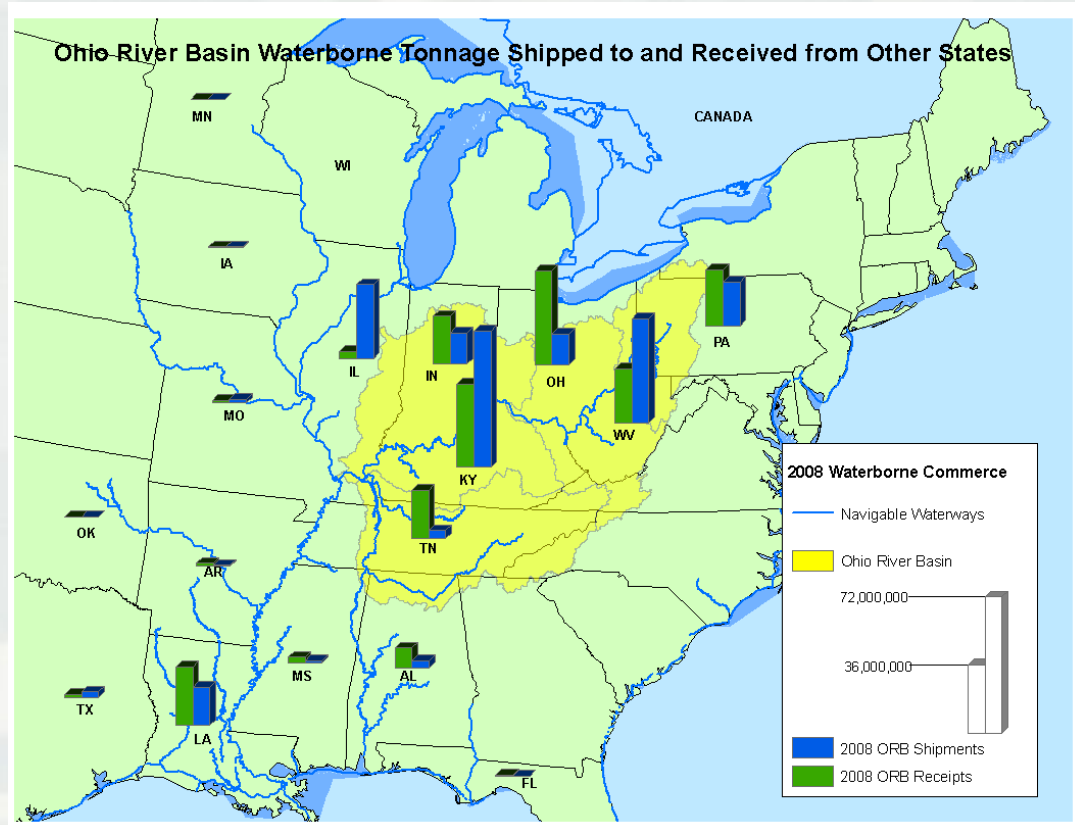
- ◆ **Some containers**



# Ohio River Basin

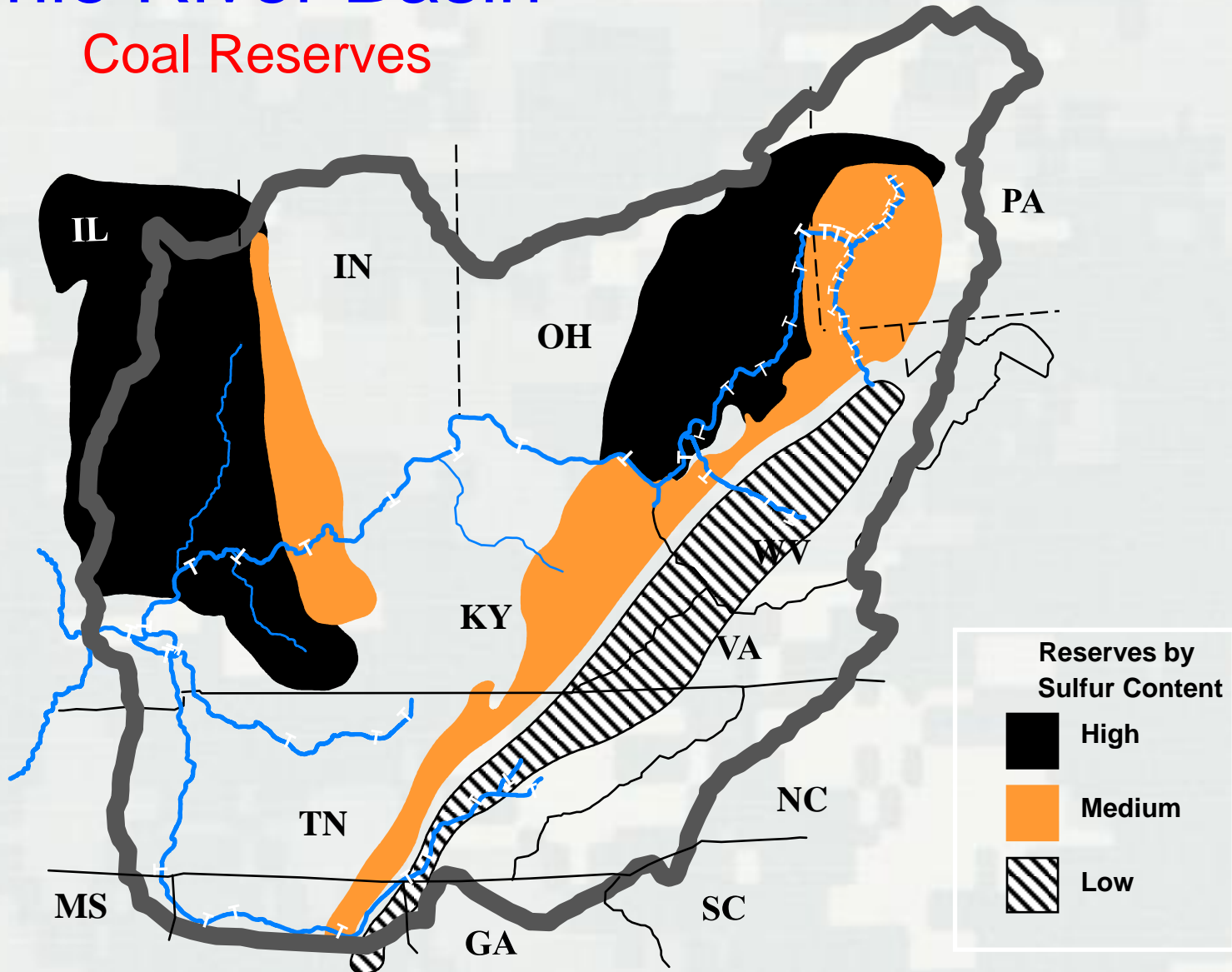
## Tonnage Shipped/Received from Other States

- 2008 Basin Traffic
  - 260 million tons valued at \$30 billion
  - Coal Primary (55%)
  - Stone Secondary (20%)
  - Ores, Steel, Petrol & Chemical
- Basin Coal Reserves
  - 230 billion tons
- Basin Electric Power Plants
  - Fuel cost savings
  - Cooling

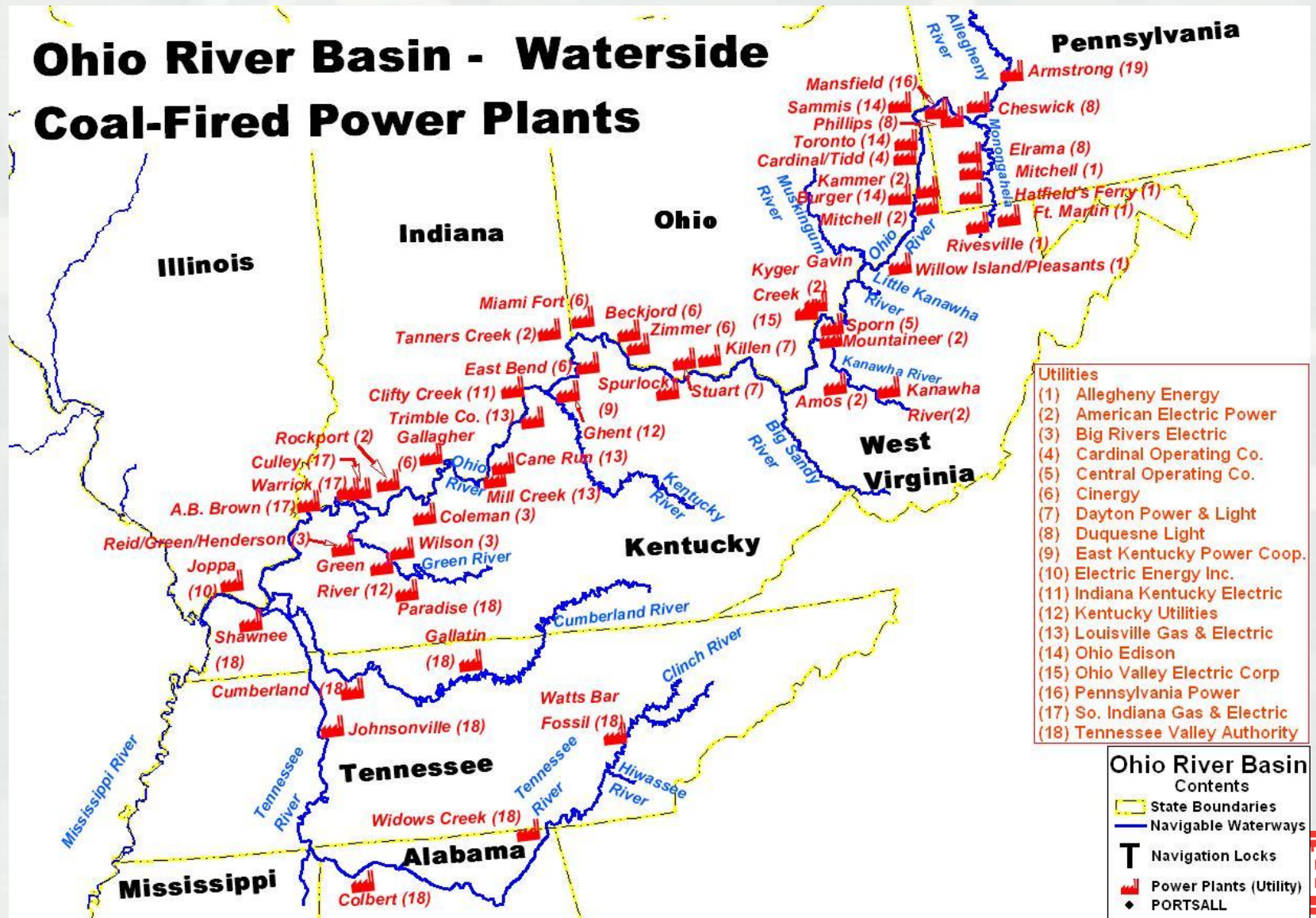


# Ohio River Basin

## Coal Reserves



# Ohio River Basin - Waterside Coal-Fired Power Plants



# Ohio River Navigation System Value

## Economic Impacts of the Ohio River

### Commercial Navigation

- 20 navigation locks and dams
- Energy conservation, reduced emissions
- Over \$3 billion annual transportation savings
- Over \$100 billion invested in electric utility construction and industrial capital investment

### Water Supply (\$1 billion annual value)

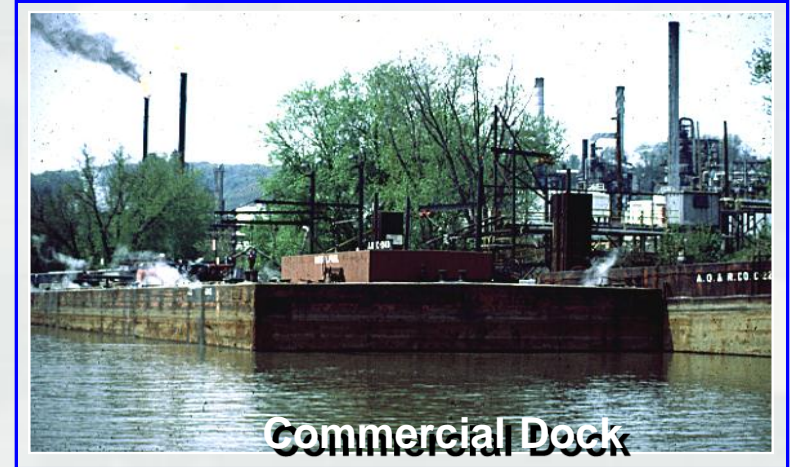
- Municipal, Industrial - Electric Utilities

### Recreation - Tourism

- Boating, Swimming, Fishing, Camping

### Shore-side Development

- Ports, Docks, Public/Private Terminals



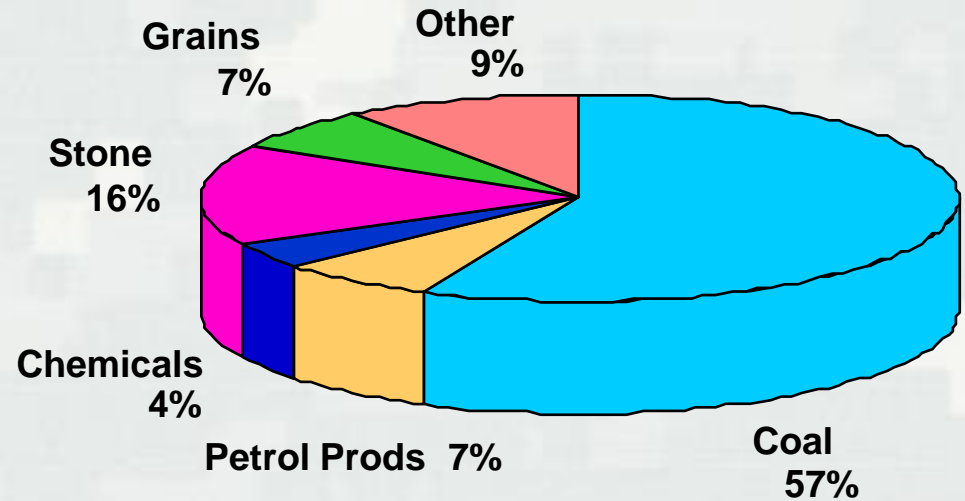
# Ohio River Navigation System Value

## Important Nationally

Employment - 100,000 jobs

Business Activity - \$11.5 billion

Tax Revenue - \$3.0 billion



- ◆ **150 million tons of coal a year**

- electric utilities
- steel industry

- ◆ **110 million tons of other**

- refining
- aluminum
- chemicals
- paper
- agriculture
- construction/cement



# Ohio River Navigation System Value

## ORS Agriculture

- ◆ Over 13.5 million tons of grain shipped in 2008
- ◆ Valued at \$3.0 billion
- ◆ Over 2.5 million tons of fertilizer in 2008
- ◆ Valued at \$850 million



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# Ohio River Navigation System Value

## ORS Chemicals

- ◆ Numerous waterside chemical plants, docks and terminals
- ◆ Over 9.3 million tons shipped in 2008
- ◆ Almost \$6.0 billion in value



# Ohio River Navigation System Value

## ORS Petroleum Products

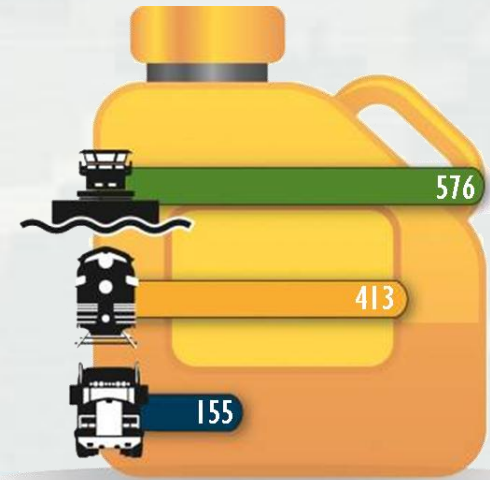
- ◆ Barge as alternative mode to Gulf pipeline nearing capacity
- ◆ Over 17.2 million tons shipped in 2008
- ◆ Valued at over \$3.0 billion



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# Ohio River Navigation System Value

- ◆ Transportation Rate Savings
- ◆ Fuel efficiency and safety →
- ◆ Jobs to regional economies
- ◆ Supports industrial development
- ◆ Critical component of regional infrastructure
- ◆ Water Supply →
- ◆ Reliable water transportation improves US balance of trade
- ◆ Enhance national security



Ton-miles Traveled per Gallon of Fuel



# Ohio River Ports

- ◆ Huntington – 69.3 m tons in 2008
  - ◆ Largest inland river port
  - ◆ 7<sup>th</sup> largest overall
- ◆ Pittsburgh - 42 m tons
- ◆ Louisville and Cincinnati - 21 m tons



# Ohio River Lock Configuration

## Two Lock Chambers

Main Lock – 1200' x 110'

Aux Lock – 600' x 110'



## Upper Ohio Configuration

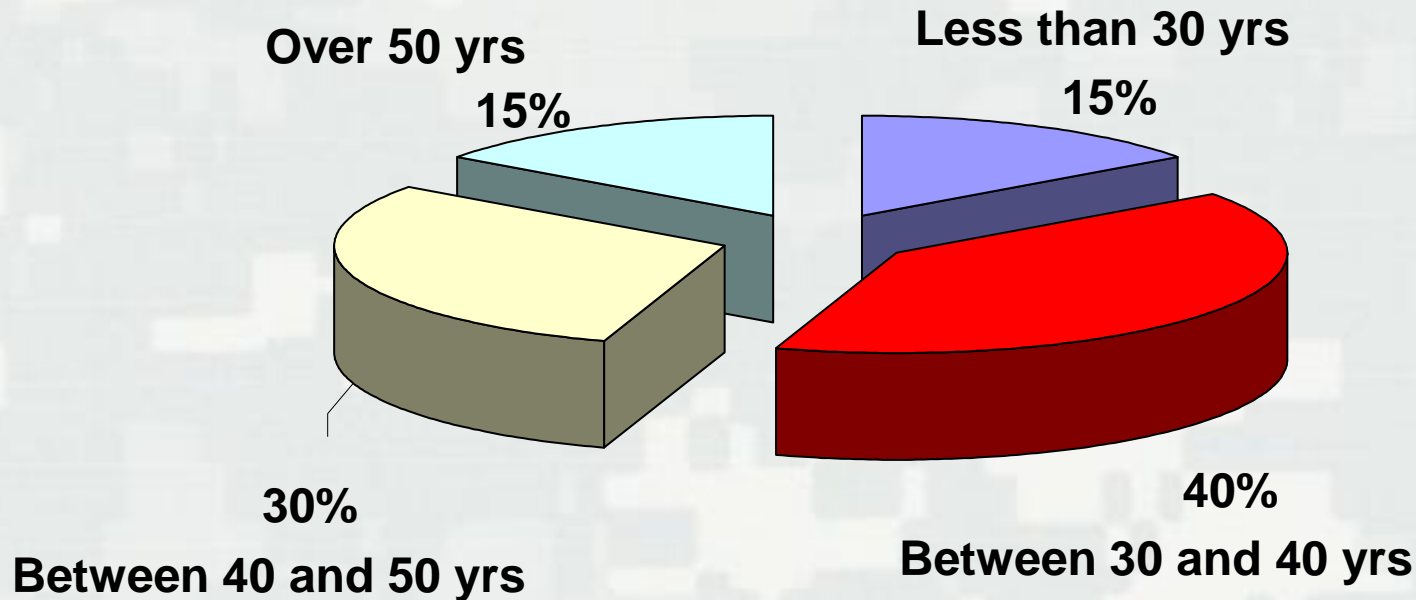
Main Lock – 600' x 110'

Aux Lock – 360' x 56'



# Problem: Aging Infrastructure

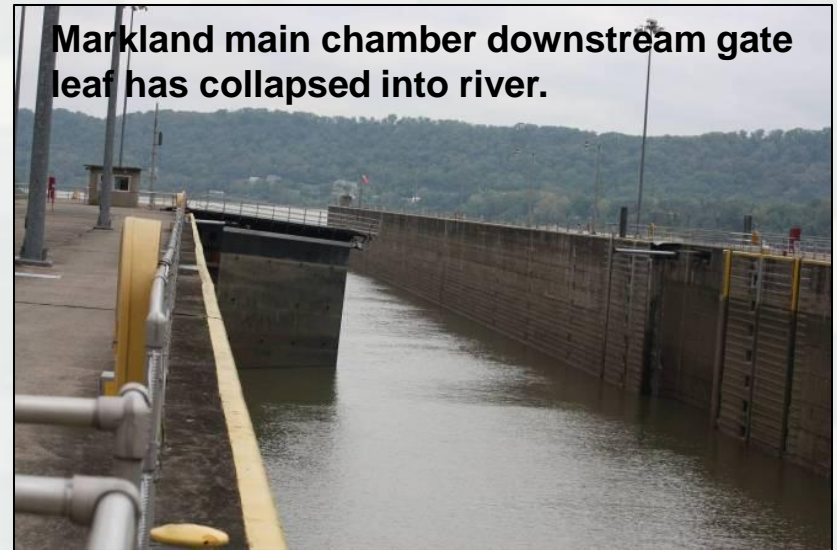
## Ohio River Lock Ages



# Reliability Challenges

## Markland and Greenup Gate Failures

Sep 27, 2009: “Catastrophic” gate failure downstream end of 1200’ main chamber at Markland. One leaf collapses into river. Chamber closed until end Feb 2010. Delays exceeded 14 hours per tow by late October.



Markland main chamber downstream gate leaf has collapsed into river.

Jan 27, 2010: Anchorage failure of Greenup main chamber downstream gate. Tow stuck in chamber for 3 days and chamber was closed for nearly a month.



Greenup main chamber downstream gate drops 1.2 feet when anchorage fails.

# Recent Ohio River Main Chamber Closures Cost Money

Lock	Closure		Delay (hrs)		Number of Tows Delayed	Delay Costs (\$)
	Dates	Duration	Max	Avg		
Emsworth	May 3 - 24, 2010	21 days 16 hrs	75.6	28.1	154	\$ 1,540,000
Greenup	Jan 30 - Feb 22, 2010	22 days 23 hrs	115.0	33.9	298	\$ 5,600,000
Markland	Sep 27, 2009 - Mar 1, 2010	155 days 7 hrs	52.5	10.7	1,720	\$ 10,500,000
Greenup	Oct 8 - Dec 4, 2009	57 days 12 hrs	43.1	8.8	797	\$ 3,920,000
Cannelton	Jun 1 - Jul 11, 2009	40 days 4 hrs	42.0	10.9	509	\$ 3,280,000
Markland	May 31 - Jun 13, 2007	15 days 2 hrs	31.3	12.7	179	\$ 1,370,000
L/D 52	Aug 8 - Oct 3, 2006	45 days 0 hrs	174.4	56.8	766	\$ 22,200,000

Source: Lock Performance Monitoring System (LPMS) and Institute for Water Resources (IWR) cost data.

FY08 Equipment Cost and \$2.50/gal Diesel Prices, Tows Maneuvering

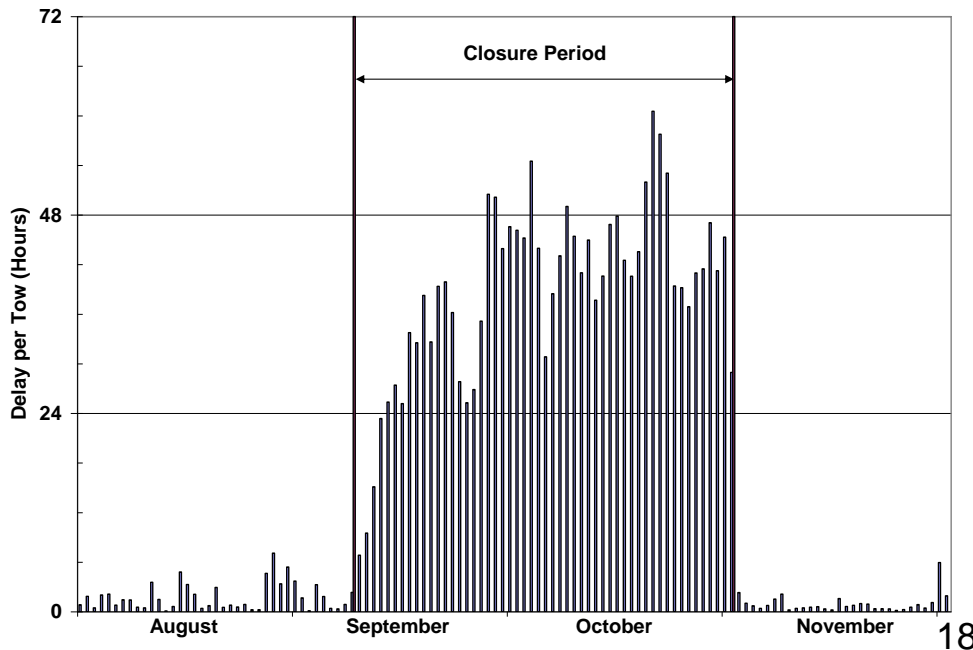


# Greenup Main Chamber Closure

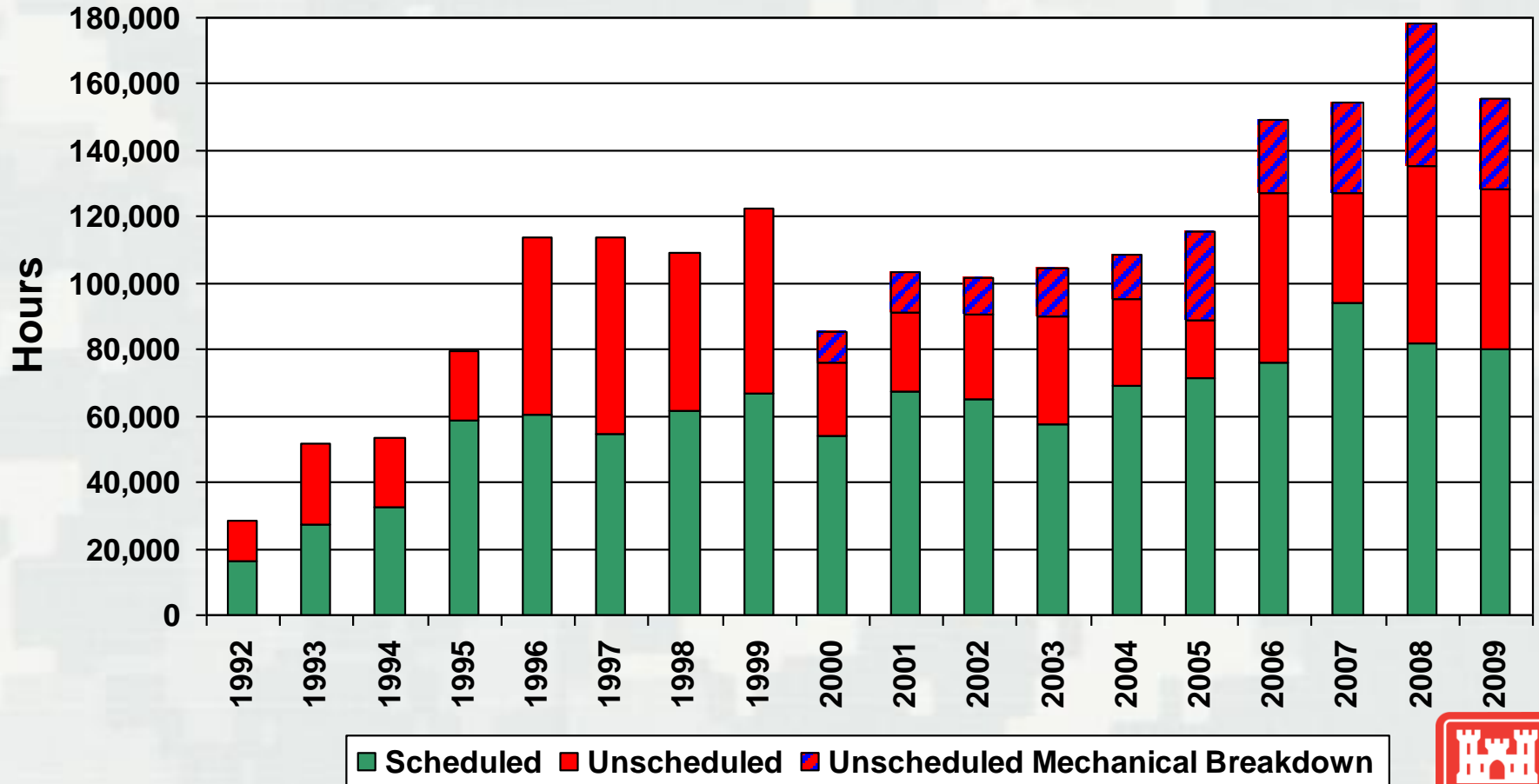
Sep 8 – Oct 31 2003

- 18 day scheduled → 52 day closure
- 718 tows delayed
- 27,000 hrs accumulated delay
- \$13.2 million in delay costs
- Other industry costs estimated at over \$30 million\*

\*unofficial study results



# Challenge: Aging Infrastructure + O&M Backlog = Increasing “Downtime” at Locks



# Challenge: Inland Waterway O&M Trend

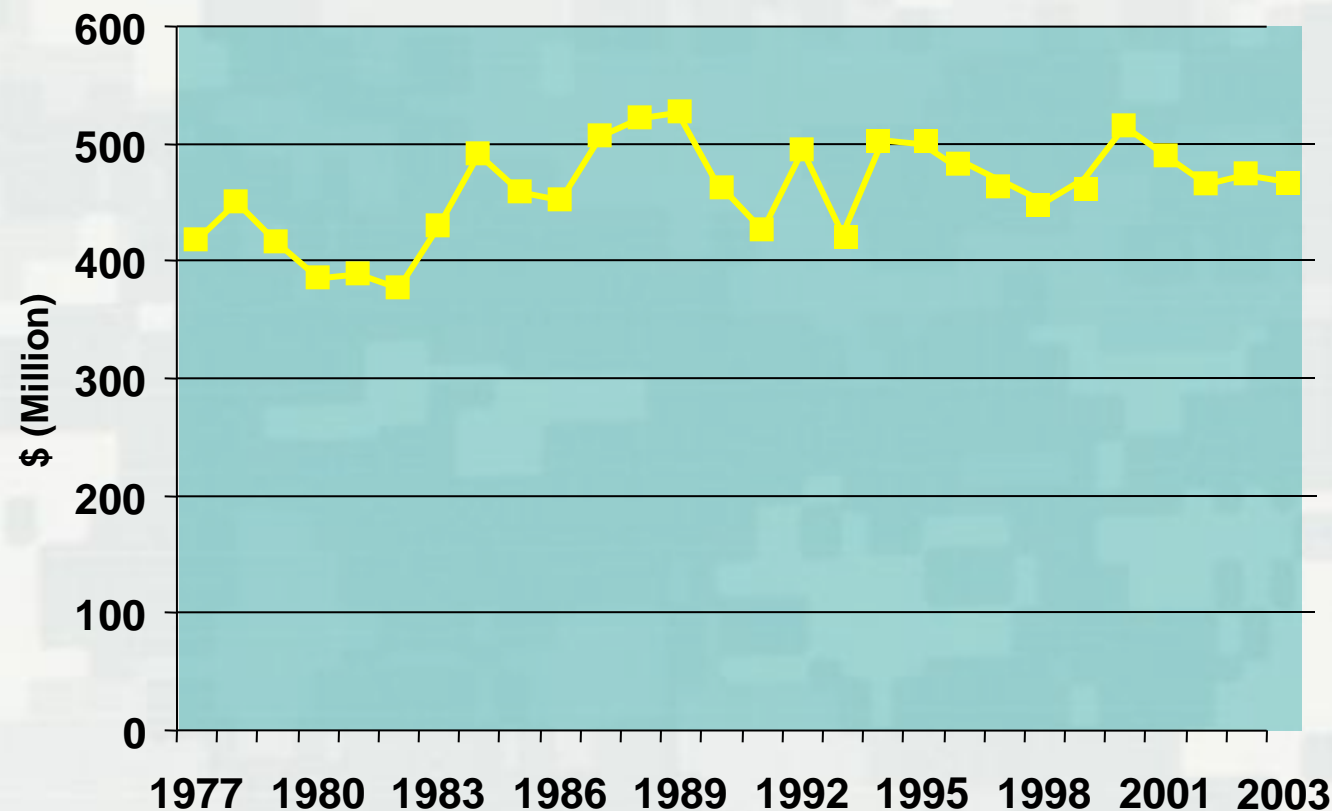
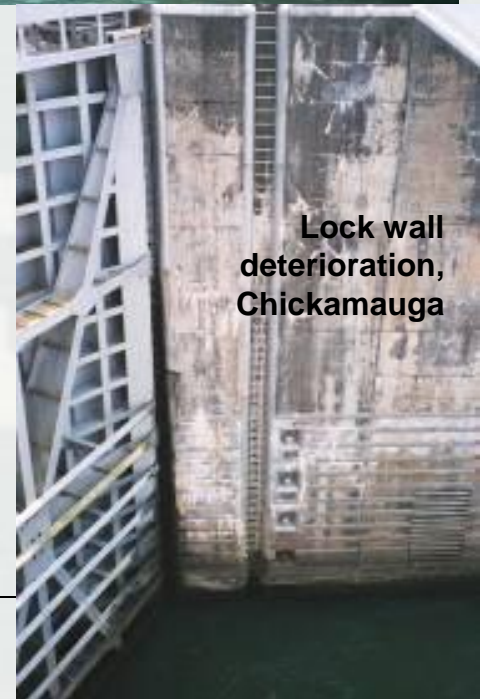
1977-2004 (1996 Constant \$) \*

Challenge: Flat O&M funding in constant dollars, even as project portfolio grows and ages...

Lock wall, Lower Mon 3



Lock wall deterioration, Chickamauga



\* Fuel-Taxed Waterways Only

# Challenge: Inefficiency and Lock Delays

Multiple lockages to pass a tow through smaller, auxiliary chambers result in long queues that are costly and inefficient.



# Lock Reliability

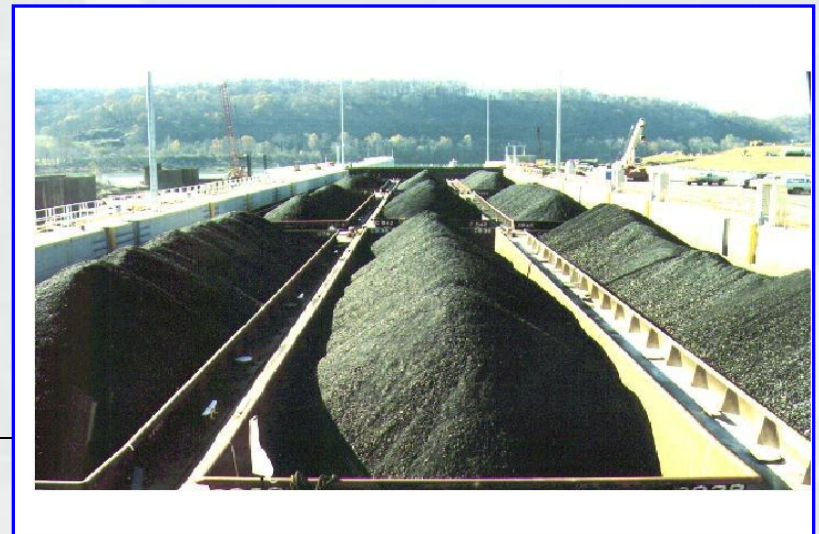
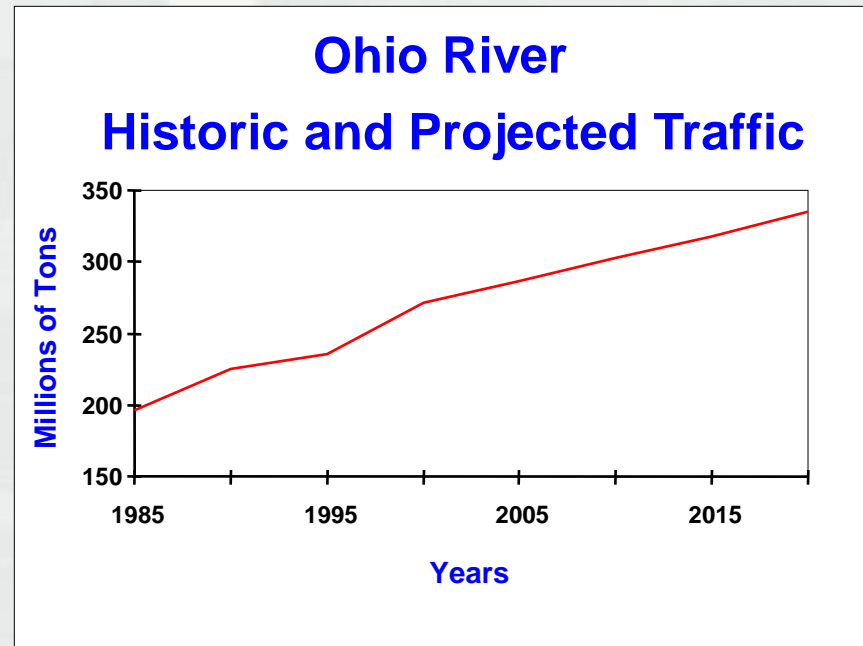
Risk of not being open when tow shows up

$$\begin{aligned} & \textit{Probability of Lock Failure} \\ & \quad \times \textit{Consequence of Failure} \\ & = \textit{Expected Economic Loss (Risk)} \end{aligned}$$



# Ohio River Navigation - Growth

- ◆ Basin population of 25 million
- ◆ Rich in natural resources
- ◆ Served by a transportation system that has allowed for economic development
- ◆ River traffic projected to grow 1.0 percent annually through 2060



# National Freight Forecasts

- ◆ **Most forecasts suggest substantial increases** in freight traffic
- ◆ The greatest increase will likely be in international containers arriving in 6,000+ TEU vessels or larger (Panama Canal to Gulf ports).
- ◆ Already stressed transportation corridors will be hard-pressed to handle increases in truck and rail traffic
- ◆ Multiplied effects of air pollution and congestion at the coastal ports
- ◆ Can the waterways help to relieve overland congestion?





# Driving Forces

- ◆ What “driving forces” may shape our use of the inland waterways in the future?
  - Climate - global changes.....droughts/floods – navigability of the system, competing water supply needs or irrigation needs
  - Technology - energy options, new vessel designs, VTS/GPS
  - Economics - **fuel prices**, foreign and domestic market conditions, commodity flows, national economy
  - Environment - Clean Air & Clean Water Acts, transportation safety,
  - Social - national security (terrorism), green vs. corporate directions
  - Political - national/foreign investment, transportation policies
- ◆ How will we incorporate these forces in our planning for the nation’s waterways?



# Should We Move the Nation's Cargo Like This?



# Or Should We Move More Cargo Like This?

200 trucks off the road



# Common Scene in Europe



This exists because of European Union mandates – not purely a market decision



# Other Possibilities on the Waterways

- ◆ Hauling by-product or waste materials (glass, paper, plastics, milled metals) to regional **recycling** centers.
- ◆ Redistribution of empty containers - **deadheading**.
- ◆ On-barge **manufacturing** or de-manufacturing of products.
- ◆ Tourism/excursion traffic – **ecotourism**.
- ◆ Floating **warehouse** space.
- ◆ Moving **military** assets – national guard equipment.



# Questions?

