

canoe.ca

Sault Ste Marie Flights
Find Cheap Flights From Sault Ste Marie. Search, Compare & Save BIG!
www.TripMama.com/Flights

Sault Ste. Marie Flights
Deals on Sault Ste. Marie Flights. Save up to 40% with Priceline.
www.priceline.com

Sault Ste Marie Flights
Fly Cheap to Sault Ste Marie. 65% off Airline Tickets.
Flights.TravelRobo.com

7°C

Sault Ste. Marie Overcast

Weather Sponsorship Available!

Ads by Google



Careers Classifieds Obituaries Autonet Shopping

SUBSCRIBER SERVICES WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2009

SUBMIT JOIN SIGN-IN Community Sports

News Sports Special Sections Arts/Life Multimedia Features Shop Local Contact Us

Sault News

Home News Sault News First stage of superlock construction underway



Business Name
City
Find a: Business Person
Search

First stage of superlock construction underway

Posted By BOB MIHELL

Posted 19 hours ago

Construction of coffer dams is now underway on the American side of the St. Marys River as the first stage of a new \$490 million superlock.

TAB Construction Company, Inc. of Ohio was awarded the \$1.97 million U.S. contract this June.

John Niemiec, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' project manager in Detroit had told Sault This Week then, that the work would not begin until schedules, safety and environmental plans had received final approval.

A second contract valued at \$6.915 million U.S. to excavate downstream of the location was awarded to Kokosing Construction Company, Inc., also of Ohio, according to Lynn Duerod, a spokesperson for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Detroit.

Duerod said Friday that Kokosing planned to start work in 2009, possibly with some test blasting.

Duerod said that the completion date for construction of the coffer dams is September 2010, and the expected completion date for the downstream excavation is November 2010.

The Corps was allotted \$17 million from the U.S. Federal government toward construction of the new lock for 2009.

The cofferdams, consisting of two large steel cells, will be built at both ends of the closed Sabin Lock to allow for the water inside to be displaced.

The downstream excavation would provide the water depth needed for the 1,000-foot freighters.

Steven Rose, an engineer with the Corps based in Sault Ste. Marie Michigan, said Friday that the next stage in the superlock development would depend on approval from the U.S. Congress, and a second decision to allocate funding toward the project for the next fiscal year. He said that the decision-making authority to appropriate funding from fiscal year to fiscal year resided with Congress.

Both Duerod and Niemiec had acknowledged earlier in the spring that there was no assurance how much money the U.S. Federal government would allot to the lock project for 2010. "The project could stall if we're not funded," Niemiec had said. "If Congress doesn't provide the funding each year, then we can't proceed."



Niemiec had expressed optimism, however, that with the superlock's construction about to begin, the funding would continue.

Niemiec had predicted, "We could have the capability of spending about \$123 million starting next year for upstream excavation and the installation of the guide walls if we're given that kind of funding."

But he had added that any new congressional funding announcements likely would not be made until early in 2010.

He also had projected that the new superlock could take from eight to 10 years to complete depending on funding approvals.

Search box with options: Newspaper, UR Sault Ste Marie, Archive Information



SAULT COLLEGE BScN 2010/ CNSA NURSING TOGA PUB
SAULT COLLEGE BScN 2010/ CNSA NURSING TOGA PUB FRIDAY october 16th live AT THE OUTBACK PIMP YOUR TOGA! PRIZES FOR: BEST PIMPED MOST [...]

The Yoga Door Events for About Town
Hi Anne, Please see below some yoga event info organized by the Yoga Door studio and kindly help incorporate it into About [...]

a minority point of view
fall should be a time of vain and glorious colour ... of trees competing to show off those various bright hues ; of

NHL Preview
Now I don't know what you people think of this, but I think that the Nashville Predators are a team to be reckoned with. For

low and slow ...
heaven is that warm bay we believe teems with life ... on a quiet sort of morning with skies mostly clear ;

one the one hand ...
it would have been back in 1959, and i was busy running ... it was drizzling - probably still november - and here's this

GREAT CITY
I moved away from the sault 11 years ago. Born and raised there. I read both the sault star and sault news ever day to



The proposed new lock first received Congressional approval in 1986, and over the past 13 years, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has spent an estimated \$20 million on engineering and design work.

Both the Davis and Sabin locks, built in 1918 and 1919, are permanently closed. They would be replaced by the new lock similar in size to the existing Poe Lock.

The MacArthur Lock, capable of handling vessels up to 800 feet in length, remains operational as well.

The Poe Lock is slated for an estimated \$70 million upgrade over the next six years, including the complete replacement of its hydraulic system. That system was responsible for four unscheduled breakdowns and resulting shipping delays in 2008, according to a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers report.

Jim Weakley, president of the U.S. based Lake Carriers Association, stressed in a Sault This Week article last January that 80 million tonnes moved annually through the Poe Lock. If something were to cause it to shut down, 60 million tonnes of that cargo could not be moved by ship because 70 per cent of the U.S. fleets' carrying capacity needs the 1,000 foot Poe Lock.

Brenda Stenta, manager of corporate communications for Essar Algoma Steel, had told Sault This Week last January, that while the company did not rely on the bigger 1,000 foot freighters for its shipping needs, the steelmaker would benefit from a twin lock for the Poe if it led to an extension of the shipping season.

"We hope a new 1000-foot Lock would open up the possibility of year round shipping, which would be of great benefit to our business," she had said then.

Currently, the lock system shuts down from Jan. 15 to March 25 to allow for scheduled maintenance work.

Article ID# 2148959

Share

Tools

[Submit content](#)

Comments on this Article. You are currently not logged in.

Discuss this Article

You must Sign-In to reply. [Sign-In](#) | [Join](#)

Topic guidelines: We welcome your thoughts, stories and information related to this article. Please stay on topic and be respectful of others. Keep the conversation appropriate for interested readers.

Tags: [first](#), [stage](#), [superlock](#), [construction](#), [underway](#),

Sault News Articles:

- GOTTA DANCE!
 - USW members vote to pay tax lawyer to research possible lawsuit
 - Lyle Sayers elected GRFN chief
 - Hockey greets Tim Hortons and Ted Nolan team up for local kids
 - Hindus celebrate Diwali, the Festival of Lights, all over the world
 - MUDDY MESS
 - AN EVENING WITH AMELIA EARHART
 - If you have nothing nice to say, don't say anything online!
 - SAH Laboratory excels in Ontario Laboratory Accreditation Assessment
 - Our City will welcome six new physicians
- [More Sault News »](#)

" The Free Obituaries

Obituaries Are Easy To Find...! - Find Any Obituary Right Now...
[Free-Obituaries-Search.com](#)

Local Newspapers

Find Local Newspapers & News Stands - dailies, weeklies, tabloids.
[News.YellowPages.com](#)

Michigan Universities

Find Universities in Michigan & Free Financial Aid for Students!
[FreeEducationGuides.com/Michigan](#)

Sault Ste Marie Airfare

Mobissimo Helps You Find the Lowest Fares - Search 170 + Sites & Save!
[www.Mobissimo.com](#)

Ads by Google

Ads by Google

Fares To Sault Ste Marie

Mobissimo Helps You Find the Lowest Fares - Search 170 + Sites & Save!

[www.Mobissimo.com](#)

Flight To Sault Ste Marie

Cheapest Flights to Sault Ste Marie
Bookingwiz
EasySearch. Save Big!

[http://www.easysearch.com/Sault-Ste-Marie](#)

Michigan Universities

Find Universities in Michigan & Free Financial Aid for Students!

[FreeEducationGuides.com/Mic](#)

Lake Superior Waterfront

150' sand beach, home / cottage with guest house For Sale by Owner

[www.LakeSuperiorProperty.ca](#)

Sault Ste Marie Flights

Since 1986, CheapTickets Has Been Saving Customers Money on Flights!

[www.CheapTickets.com/Flights](#)

What are these icons?
 = Photo Gallery
 Click here for the icon legend

Calendar

- Today**
- * Lunch Hour Power Yoga Class
 - * Mindfulness Meditation Course
 - 10 Day Early Morning Yoga and Pilates Challenge
 - CLUB GÉNOME, THE FIRST OF FOUR INTERACTIVE OBJECT THEATRES TO OPEN AT SCIENCE NORTH, WELCOMES YOU!
 - Digital Planetarium at Science North!!
 - GreatLife 10-week challenge
 - Meagan's Antarctic Odyssey
 - Support Local Soup Kitchen
 - Wired to Win: Surviving the Tour de France
 - Oct. 29, 2009**
 - DivorceCare Seminar/Support Group
 - Resume Writing
 - Roller Derby Training/Fitness Program

Shopping Directory
 Shop your Local Advertisers