As of June, 2008 a natural cut-off was formed at mile 479.5 behind Mackey Island. This is an unstable channel and boaters should continue around the original bend if there is sufficient water.

The nearest launching ramp is at Old Shawneetown, IL. This ramp is about 10 miles downriver from the mouth of the Wabash, on the Ohio River. The ramp is on the right bank just before the bridge there.

Be careful on the Ohio River. One will now encounter barge traffic making large waves and prop wash strong enough to pull a small boat into it. They are very slow so it is easy to stay clear of them.