



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Savannah District

News Release

Release No: 09- 06

February 17, 2009

J. Strom Thurmond Dam and Lake Gets the “Green” Light

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COLUMBIA, S.C. – Central Electric Power Cooperative in Columbia donated hundreds of energy efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District. The donation is part of the state electric cooperatives’ “Do The Light Switch” program, which encourages consumers to make the switch to more energy efficient lighting, such as CFLs.

J. Strom Thurmond Project will use the new CFLs to replace standard incandescent bulbs in Corps recreation areas around the lake. The CFLs, with their long life and lower energy consumption, will also be used in the Thurmond Power Plant, replacing incandescent bulbs in many areas of the dam. Mike Johnson, a contractor for the US Army Corps of Engineers at Thurmond Project, led the effort to supply the bulbs to the dam and lake areas. Funding for the donation came from Central Electric, which supplies power to South Carolina’s 20 independent electric cooperatives.

“The Thurmond Project would like to thank Central Electric Power Cooperative for their generous donation,” said Aaron Wahus, Park Operations Manager at J. Strom Thurmond Dam and Lake. “Converting to CFLs will provide a significant savings in energy and maintenance costs and provide a real boost in our continuing efforts to be number one in the Corps’ ‘Going Green’ effort by using environmentally friendly products.”

CFLs can provide the same amount of light as standard incandescent bulbs, but they use 75 percent less energy, helping to lower electric bills. CFLs also last up to ten times longer.

Benefits to the Corps include a projected savings of more than \$50,000 over the life of the 664 bulbs that are being donated.

For more information on the program, visit www.DoTheLightSwitch.com or contact Park Ranger Jay Weidman at 1-800-533-3478, ext. 1172.

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