



# MEDIA ADVISORY

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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## OXYGEN INJECTION TANKS TO BE INSTALLED FOR LAKE THURMOND (Environmental story)

**SAVANNAH, GEORGIA** – Workers for the [Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers](#), will install large liquid oxygen storage tanks at 10 a.m., Tuesday, April 6, 2010, near the shore of [Lake J. Strom Thurmond](#) near Modoc, S.C.

At 10 a.m., a crane will begin lifting the tanks from flatbed trucks onto pre-constructed cradles providing a dramatic opportunity for visuals. In addition, experts on the construction project and on the environmental benefits of the injection system will be available for interviews. Media may arrive up to 20 minutes early for interviews or remain after the tanks are in place for interviews.

The tanks, part of an environmental mitigation program for the power plant at the [Richard B. Russell Dam](#), will ultimately supply pure oxygen to a series of underwater tubes along the bottom of Lake Thurmond. The tubes will replace oxygen depleted during the operation of the Russell Dam pump-back hydro-electric turbines. The oxygen replacement will allow full operation of the four pump-back units year round. Currently no more than two pump-back units may be operated during warm summer months. The pump-back turbines at Russell Dam generate power normally during daytime peak demand hours then reverse direction at night to pull water back into Russell Lake for re-use the next day, thus providing power even during drought. Currently Russell's eight turbines (four normal and four pump-back) generate more than 465 million megawatts of clean, renewable power annually.

Corps biologists also expect the injection system, when fully operational, will greatly enhance fishing in the areas near the system.

The project began more than two years ago and included rebuilding Gilchrist Ferry Road in Modoc to accommodate tanker trucks that will service the oxygen tanks.

The tanks are located on Gilchrist Ferry Road. To reach the site, turn west from SC Hwy 28 (US 221) onto Gilchrist Ferry Road in Modoc, S.C., and travel approximately 1 mile. The site will be on the left near the boat ramp. (MapQuest lists the site as 700 – 767 Gilchrist Ferry Road.) Parking is available. Please note that this outdoor location is considered a construction site and safety precautions will be strictly enforced. Media should all wear closed-toe shoes.

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