Save Our Water and Corps of Engineers Discuss Lake Management Plan as Lake Hits 582 NGVD!

Save Our Water, Inc. meets with Corps of Engineers to clarify Lake Management Plan and to define terms contained therein.

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(Eufaula) – On Wednesday, August 2, 2006 Save Our Water, Inc. Board members met with Lake Eufaula Project Manager, Jeff Knack to discuss implementing the temporary lake management plan Colonel Miroslav Kurka, District Commander, agreed to in his June 5th letter to Save Our Water, Inc.

The temporary management plan calls for implementing a public information program when Lake Eufaula reaches a level of 582 NGVD. When the water level is between 582 and 579 the plan calls for the Corps of Engineers to notify Southwestern Power Administration that hydropower generation should only be made when it is needed for rapid response, short-term peaking purposes or to preserve system reliability.

The purpose of the August 2nd meeting was to clarify the meaning of "Public Information Program; define "rapid response, short-term peaking, and preserving system reliability;" and to discover ways to work together to help maintain the level of Lake Eufaula for recreational purposes.

As a result of the meeting, on Friday, August 4th, the U.S. Corps of Engineers Tulsa District has decided to conduct a weekly press release during times the lake is below 582. The release will contain current elevation, inflow, number of hours of generation, predicted elevation by the end of the week, and pool status (rate it's rising or declining). This should help inform the public on the lake elevation. This will constitute the Public Information Program.

Also, Colonel Kurka is sending a letter to Southwestern Power Administration informing them that Eufaula is at 582 NGVD and requesting that only minimal generation be done at Lake Eufaula to offset peak demand.

Save Our Water is still waiting on the clarification of terms from the Corps technical support branch.

"We are at 581.96 today," said Karen Weldin, President of Save Our Water, Inc., "and losing about one half inch a day to evaporation plus what we will lose to hydropower generation. It is imperative that the Corps of Engineers and Southwestern Power Administration continue to be as conservative as they have been and only generate when it is absolutely necessary and only then. We all need to work together to preserve and protect Lake Eufaula."

Save Our Water, Inc.'s mission is to preserve and protect Lake Eufaula and all Oklahoma's water resources.

For more information, go to www.saveourwaterlakeeufaula.com or call 918-452-3184.