



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Jacksonville District

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers assures Ten Mile Creek Reservoir is safe, schedules telephone news conference

Jacksonville, Fla. -- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District commander Col. Paul Grosskruger today assured the public that human health and safety are the Corps' highest priorities, and that the Ten Mile Creek Reservoir project poses no danger to lives or private property. In addressing concerns about the reservoir voiced by the South Florida Water Management District, Grosskruger stated emphatically that the Corps is committed to delivering a well-built project.

"I want to make it perfectly clear that public safety is the Army Corps of Engineers' highest priority," Grosskruger continued. "At no time has the Ten Mile Creek reservoir posed a threat to lives or private property. Further, there will be no time in the future – no time ever - when the Ten Mile Creek reservoir will pose a threat. It will function as intended – that is, to provide environmental benefits to the Indian River Lagoon and St. Lucie Estuary."

Grosskruger added that the reservoir will not pose a threat for the following reasons;

- The Corps has complete control over both the amount of water that goes into the reservoir and the amount that is pumped out. Except for rain that falls directly on the reservoir, the Corps completely controls water into and out of the reservoir.

- The Corps has well-developed monitoring plans and will always maintain close surveillance of onsite conditions. Corps personnel will test the facility before it is ever put into use.

- Many of the conditions of concern mentioned by the water management district have already been rectified.

The height of the levee surrounding the reservoir was also discussed. Since Hurricane Katrina, a new set of guidelines has been adopted to provide consistent construction standards for structures such as at the Ten Mile Creek reservoir. These guidelines, embodied in the Design Criteria Memorandum 2, indicate the need for a taller levee.

Grosskruger committed to working with the South Florida Water Management District to find a mutually acceptable solution.



“The Corps and the South Florida Water Management District are in this together,” said Grosskruger. “Our agencies have been partners in every sense of the word, working in lock step through every phase of this project – including its design and construction and now in the certification process. We respect that relationship and will continue to act in good faith to ensure a final project that meets its intended purpose.”

Grosskruger added, “We take the Ten Mile Creek Project very seriously and we will address, in partnership with the South Florida Water Management District, every outstanding issue.”

The Corps will host a telephone news conference to discuss the Ten Mile Creek Project on Friday, September 14 at 11 a.m. The call-in number is 904-232-1997.

For further information, please call 904-334-8954.

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Please note: Col. Paul Grosskruger’s statement to the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board is available at: http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/cco/docs/COL_TMCstatement_Sept2007.pdf.