

**Cherokee Dam and Lake Cherokee**

**OWNER**

Cherokee Water Company, Longview, Texas.

**ENGINEER (Design)**

Powell and Powell.

**LOCATION**

On Cherokee Bayou in Gregg and Rusk Counties, 12 miles southeast of Longview.

**DRAINAGE AREA**

158 square miles.

**DAM**

Type Earthfill  
 Length (including spillways) 4,000 ft  
 Maximum height 45 ft  
 Top width 20 ft  
 Top elevation 295.0 ft above msl

**SPILLWAY (emergency)**

Location Near right end of dam  
 Type Cut in natural ground  
 Crest length 160 ft  
 Crest elevation 287.7 ft above msl

**SPILLWAY (service)**

Type Uncontrolled concrete structure  
 Location Left end of dam  
 Crest length 828± ft  
 Crest elevation 280.0 ft above msl

**OUTLET WORKS**

Type Concrete pipe, 18-inch diameter  
 Invert elevation 260.0 ft above msl  
 Control Gate valve operated from a tower

**STATE AUTHORIZATION**

Permit No. 1396 (Application No. 1497), November 27, 1946, authorizes diversion of 62,400 acre-feet of water annually for municipal and recreational purposes.  
 Permit No. 1427 (Application No. 1530), December 11, 1947, extends the use to include industrial and manufacturing.  
 City of Longview uses water for municipal purposes.  
 Southwestern Electric Power Company circulates water from the lake to the Knox Lee powerplant and returns the water to the lake.

**RESERVOIR DATA (Based on 1960 U.S. Soil Conservation Service survey)**

FEATURE	ELEVATION (FEET ABOVE MSL)	CAPACITY (ACRE-FEET)	AREA (ACRES)
Top of dam	295.0	—	—
Top of design flood pool	291.0	—	—
Crest of emergency spillway	287.7	—	—
Crest of service spillway	280.0	46,700	3,987
Invert of 18-inch outlet	260.0	4,510	800
Usable storage by pumping	—	46,700	—

**GENERAL**

Construction started February 26, 1948  
 Deliberate impoundment began October 1, 1948  
 Dam completed November 19, 1948  
 General contractor Gifford Hill  
 Cost of dam and spillway \$658,182.46  
 Extensive repairs were made to the service spillway concrete apron in 1958.

