

CATOOSA – Shipping through the Port rebounded last month, with all locks on the navigation system re-opened to traffic after repairs were completed to W.D. Mayo Lock & Dam 14 in September. Total October barge shipping through the Port was 147,158 tons, bringing the 2014 cumulative total to 1,934,026 tons. Inbound steel increased by nearly 8,000 tons, nearly all of which was imported from Russia and China – utilizing water transportation the entire trip to Catoosa. Also increasing during October were outbound shipments of soybeans, to nearly 30,000 tons – the highest total in seven months. An abundant harvest for beans was a partial explanation, but in addition the price for U.S. soybeans is currently lower compared to other world exporters' price for the commodity. And, according to Phil Guettermann at Gavilon Grain, the good news is expected to continue: "November shipping for soybeans through the Port should easily surpass the October numbers." Guettermann said. "The ability to handle a wide range of commodities has always been the strength of the Port." said David Page, Chairman of the City of Tulsa-Rogers County Port Authority. "Increases in shipping for both agricultural commodities and steel help illustrate the product diversity that has helped make the Port and the McClellan-Kerr waterway such an important economic asset for the region." Total shipping for the entire McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System in October was 1,058,276 tons. Of that total, 420,678 tons shipped through Oklahoma. The Port handled 14 percent of the cargo shipped on the navigation system, and 35 percent of the cargo that moved through Oklahoma. The 2,500-acre Tulsa Port of Catoosa complex offers industrial sites for lease, and its Riverview Business Park, adjacent to the Port, offers property for sale. Together they are home to 70 industrial facilities employing more than 4,200 workers.