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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region

Montana Area Office

P.O. Box 30137

Billings, Montana 59107-0137



April 5, 2011

FAXOGRAM: Water Order Change

To: Chief, Power Supply and Billing Division, WAPA, Watertown, South Dakota
Attention: F-6001
Chief, Power Dispatching Branch, WAPA, Loveland, Colorado
Attention: J-4120
Facilities Manager, Hardin, Montana
Attention: MT-300: Tom Tauscher
Project Manager, Mills, Wyoming
Attention: WY-4000, WY-4100, WY-6400
Assistant Superintendent, National Park Service, Lovell, Wyoming
Attention: Jim Staebler

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 11-26**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

Elevation: 3620.70 Storage: 834,434 acre-feet; River Release: 3,000 cfs; Inflow: 3,300 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Snowpack in the Bighorn River Basin continues to increase and is currently about 113 percent of average. Inflow into Bighorn Lake has increased to over 3,000 cfs. Based on the April water supply forecast, releases to the Bighorn River need to be increased to control the rate of fill of storage in Bighorn Lake. In response, the following operation is required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 1600 hour on Wednesday, April 6, 2011:

Increase average daily turbine release to 3,180 cfs ($\approx 1,945$ MW-Hrs/day using 39.2 cfs/mw).

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1600 hour on Wednesday, April 6, 2011:

Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.

Increase river release to 3,250 cfs (gage height = 60.63 with -0.06 shift).

Increase total release from the Afterbay to 3,250 cfs.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle