



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region

Montana Area Office

P.O. Box 30137

Billings, Montana 59107-0137



IN REPLY REFER TO: MT-450

April 13, 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: Valerie Newman

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 11-29**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

Elevation: 3622.08 Storage: 844,915 acre-feet; River Release: 3,750 cfs; Inflow: 4,480 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Snowpack in the Bighorn River Basin is currently about 118 percent of average. With releases out of Boysen and Buffalo Bill Reservoirs combined with other tributary flows, inflow into Bighorn Lake has increased to over 4,400 cfs. To control the rate of fill of storage in Bighorn Lake, the following operation changes are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant.

The USGS did a measurement yesterday and found that the shift on the river had changed to a -0.12 we will be making that change as well as the flow change at the same time.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 0800 hour on Wednesday, April 13, 2011:

Increase average daily turbine release to 4,180 cfs (\approx 2,710 MW-Hrs/day using 37.0 cfs/mw).

At 0800 hour on Thursday, April 14, 2011:

Increase average daily turbine release to 4,680 cfs (\approx 3,035 MW-Hrs/day using 37.0 cfs/mw).

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 800 hour on Wednesday, April 13, 2011:

Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.

Increase river release to 4,250 cfs (gage height = 61.33 with -0.12 shift).

Increase total release from the Afterbay to 4,250 cfs.

At 0800 hour on Thursday, April 14, 2011:

Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.

Increase river release to 4,750 cfs (gage height = 61.62 with -0.12 shift).

Increase total release from the Afterbay to 4,750 cfs.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle