



# 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

May 25, 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. 11-43**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS (May 25, 2011: 12:00am)**

Elevation: 3621.11 Storage: 837,517 acre-feet; River Release: 3,500 cfs; Inflow: 16,600 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Precipitation has diminished and the flash flooding has subsided considerably. Streamflows are declining but continue to remain high. Inflows into Bighorn Lake continue to remain over 16,000 cfs. To control the reservoir storage and continue preparing for the anticipated snowmelt, the following operations are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant.

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

#### **At 1600 hour on Wednesday, May 25, 2011:**

*Increase average daily turbine release to 3,930 cfs ( $\approx$  3,005 MW-Hrs/day using 31.4 cfs/mw).*

#### **At 1800 hour on Wednesday, May 25, 2011:**

*Increase average daily turbine release to 4,430 cfs ( $\approx$  3,385 MW-Hrs/day using 31.4 cfs/mw).*

#### **At 2000 hour on Wednesday, May 25, 2011:**

*Increase average daily turbine release to 4,930 cfs ( $\approx$  3,770 MW-Hrs/day using 31.4 cfs/mw).*

### **AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:**

#### **At 1600 hour on Wednesday, May 25, 2011:**

*Maintain diversions to the bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.*

*Increase river release to 4,000 cfs (gage height = 61.18 with -0.12 shift).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 4,000 cfs.*

#### **At 1800 hour on Wednesday, May 25, 2011:**

*Maintain diversions to the bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.*

*Increase river release to 4,500 cfs (gage height = 61.48 with -0.12 shift).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 4,500 cfs.*

#### **At 2000 hour on Wednesday, May 25, 2011:**

*Maintain diversions to the bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.*

*Increase river release to 5,000 cfs (gage height = 61.75 with -0.12 shift).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 5,000 cfs.*

/S/ Tim H. Felchle