



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

March 16, 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. 11-24**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3621.46 Storage: 840,169 acre-feet; River Release: 2,500 cfs; Inflow: 3,735 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Due to warm temperatures melting low elevation snow in the Bighorn Basin, inflows into Bighorn Lake has increased to near 3,800 cfs. Snowpack in the Bighorn River Basin continues to remain above average. To control the rate of fill of storage in Bighorn Lake, releases to the Bighorn River will be increased. In response, the following operation is required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 1400 hour on Wednesday, March 16, 2011:

Increase average daily turbine release to 2,680 cfs ($\approx 1,610$ MW-Hrs/day using 40.0 cfs/mw).

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1400 hour on Wednesday, March 16, 2011:

Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.

Increase river release to 2,750 cfs (gage height = 60.26 with -0.06 shift).

Increase total release from the Afterbay to 2,750 cfs.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle