



IN REPLY REFER TO: MT-450

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region

Montana Area Office

P.O. Box 30137

Billings, Montana 59107-0137



August 1, 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. 11-77**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS (August 1, 2011; 10:00 a.m.)

Elevation: 3652.74 Storage: 1,207,288 acre-feet; River Release: 10,000 cfs; Inflow: 7,420 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Yellowtail field staff has requested local control and outage during August 9-10 at Yellowtail Powerplant to collect data required for up-rate studies of the generators. During an 8-hour period on August 9 Unit #1 will need be stopped periodically for inspection and testing. During 0500-2100 hour, Unit #4 will be removed from service for an internal generator inspection. While continuing to control the evacuation rate of storage in the exclusive flood control pool, the following operation change is required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant to allow for the above maintenance work. During the maintenance work, the turbine releases will be limited and restricted to 3 unit capacity. It is assumed that by August 9-10, releases out of Yellowtail Dam to the Bighorn River will be reduced and being maintained at 8,000 cfs.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

During 0900 hour on Tuesday, August 9 through 2100 hour on Wednesday, August 10, 2011:

Maintain average daily turbine release at 5,825 cfs (\approx 4,955 MW-Hrs/day using 28.2 cfs/mw).

YELLOWTAIL BYPASS RELEASE:

During 0900-1700 hour on Tuesday, August 9, 2011:

Increase releases through the river outlet gates to \approx 2,530 cfs.

During 0500-2100 hour on Wednesday, August 10, 2011:

Decrease releases through the river outlet gates to \approx 2,530 cfs.

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

During 0900 hour on Tuesday, August 9 through 2100 hour on Wednesday, August 10, 2011:

Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 425 cfs (gage height = 75.23 with -1.26 shift).

Maintain river release at 8,000 cfs (gage height = 63.02 with 0.0 shift).

Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 8,425 cfs.

SPECIAL AFTERBAY OPERATION REQUIREMENT:

Maintain the level of the Afterbay at or above elevation 3185 until further notice. It is also extremely important to maintain the river stage within +/- 0.06 feet of the river stage set point value.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle