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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



October 31, 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. 12-06**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

Elevation: 3639.51 Storage: 1,014,440 acre-feet; River Release: 3,850 cfs; Inflow: 2,700 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Annual maintenance is required on Yellowtail Powerplant. To accommodate the scheduled maintenance, releases through the powerplant will be restricted and limited to 2-unit capacity. WAPA has also requested that the turbine generation be restricted and limited to no higher than 80 MWs/hr. To accommodate the scheduled maintenance and slow the evacuation rate of storage in Bighorn Lake, the following operation change is required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant. In addition, power generation indicates actual river flows are higher than anticipated. To adjust for the variation in flows, a new shift of -0.38 should be applied to the river gage height.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

During 0800 hour on Monday, October 31 through 1800 hour on Thursday, November 3, 2011:
Decrease average daily turbine release to 1,930 cfs (\approx 1,495 MW-Hrs/day using 31.0 cfs/mw).

YELLOWTAIL BYPASS RELEASE:

During 0800 hour on Monday, October 31 through 1800 hour on Thursday, November 3, 2011:
Increase release through the spillway gates to 1,500 cfs (6 inch minimum gate openings).

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

During 0800 hour on Monday, October 31 through 1800 hour on Thursday, November 3, 2011:
*Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 0 cfs (gage height = 69.32 with -0.82 shift).
Decrease river release to 3,500 cfs (gage height = 61.12 with -0.38 shift).
Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 3,500 cfs.*

/S/ Tim H. Felchle