



# 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

December 14, 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. 12-13**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS**

Elevation: 3633.42 Storage: 944,726 acre-feet; River Release: 3,130 cfs; Inflow: 2,080 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Power generation indicates actual river flows are higher than anticipated. To adjust for the variation in flows, the following operation change is required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant, applying a new shift of -0.03 to the river stream gage height. The drawdown of the Afterbay Reservoir previously scheduled in Water Release Order BHR No. 12-12 still remains where the level of the Afterbay must be maintained no higher than elevation 3178.5 for approximately 2 days beginning at 0800 hour on December 20.

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**At 1600 hour on Wednesday, December 14, 2011:**

*Maintain average daily turbine release at 3,060 cfs ( $\approx$  2,130 MW-Hrs/day using 34.5 cfs/mw).*

**During 0800 hour on Tuesday, December 20 through 0800 hour on Thursday, December 22, 2011:**

*Maintain average daily turbine release at 3,060 cfs ( $\approx$  2,130 MW-Hrs/day using 34.5 cfs/mw).*

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

**At 1600 hour on Wednesday, December 14, 2011:**

*Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 0 cfs (gage height = 68.50 with 0.00 shift).*

*Maintain river release at 3,130 cfs (decrease gage height to 60.51 & apply new shift of -0.03).*

*Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 3,130 cfs.*

**During 0800 hour on Tuesday, December 20 through 0800 hour on Thursday, December 22, 2011:**

*Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 0 cfs (gage height = 68.50 with 0.00 shift).*

*Maintain river release at 3,130 cfs (gage height = 60.51 with -0.03 shift).*

*Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 3,130 cfs.*

**Special Note: Maintain the level of the Afterbay Reservoir no higher than elevation 3178.5 during 0800 hour on December 20 through 0800 hour on December 22, 2011 to allow for installation of cofferdam on the spillway radial gates.**

/S/ Tim H. Felchle