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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



February 24, 2012

## **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. 12-20**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS**

Elevation: 3620.75 Storage: 834,809 acre-feet; River Release: 3,130 cfs; Inflow: 2,720 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

To allow for installation of temporary stoplog guides for use in the refurbishment of radial gate #3 of the Afterbay Dam, the level of the Afterbay Reservoir must be maintained at or below elevation 3178.5 during 0800 hour on March 12, 2012 through 0800 hour on March 14, 2012. The Contractor prefers maintaining the Afterbay level near elevation 3175.5 during this time. After the installation of the temporary stoplog guides, the Afterbay will be allowed to increase to no higher than elevation 3186. With the 30-day outage still scheduled on Unit # 4 of the Yellowtail Powerplant for February 13-March 13, 2012, power turbine releases will be limited and restricted to 3-unit capacity.

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**During 0800 hour on Monday, February 13 through 1730 hour on Tuesday, March 13, 2012:**  
*Maintain average daily turbine release at 3,060 cfs ( $\approx$  2,130 MW-Hrs/day using 34.5 cfs/mw).  
**Restrict and limit turbine releases to 3-unit capacity.***

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

**During 0800 hour on Monday, February 13 through 1730 hour on Tuesday, March 13, 2012:**  
*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 = 60.48 with 0.00 shift).  
Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 3,130 cfs.*

**Special Note: During 0800 hour on March 12 through 0800 hour on March 14, 2012, maintain the level of the Afterbay Reservoir no lower than elevation 3172 and no higher than elevation 3178.5, preferably near elevation 3175.5. After the installation of the temporary stoplog guides is completed, the Afterbay will be allowed to increase and maintained no higher than elevation 3186.**

/S/ Tim H. Felchle