



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

May 16, 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. 12-34**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

Elevation: 3615.30 Storage: 796,564 acre-feet; River Release: 2,000 cfs; Inflow: 2,660 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Little freeboard exists in the Bighorn Canal and therefore the BIA has requested a reduction in diversions to the Bighorn Canal. As a result, the following operation is required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 1330 hour on Wednesday, May 16, 2012:

Decrease average daily turbine release to 2,390 cfs ($\approx 1,185$ MW-Hrs/day using 48.4 cfs/mw).

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1330 hour on Wednesday, May 16, 2012:

Decrease diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 460 cfs (gage height = 73.62 with +0.57 shift).

Maintain river release at 2,000 cfs (gage height = 59.72 with -0.14 shift).

Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 2,460 cfs.

Special Note: To accomplish ongoing contract work on the Afterbay Dam sluice gates and sluice gate water way, the level of the Afterbay must be maintained between the elevations 3186-3190 at all times.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle