



# 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 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. 12-39**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS**

Elevation: 3618.57 Storage: 818,873 acre-feet; River Release: 1,750 cfs; Inflow: 4,120 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

The BIA requested a decrease in diversions to the Bighorn Canal. In response, the following operation change is required at Yellowtail Dam, Powerplant and Afterbay Dam.

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**At 1500 hour on Thursday, May 24, 2012:**

*Decrease average daily turbine release to 2,155 cfs ( $\approx 1,180$  MW-Hours/day using 43.8 cfs/mw).*

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

**At 1500 hour on Thursday, May 24, 2012:**

*Decrease diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 475 cfs (gage height = 73.64 with shift of +0.65).*

*Maintain river release at 1,750 cfs (gage height = 59.61 with shift of -0.27).*

*Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 2,225 cfs.*

**Special Note: To accommodate 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