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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



May 15, 2012

FAXOGRAM: Water Order Change

To: Chief, Power Supply and Billing Division, WAPA, Watertown, South Dakota
Attention: F-6300
Chief, Power Dispatching Branch, WAPA, Loveland, Colorado
Attention: J-4120
Facilities Manager, Helena, Montana
Attention: MT-800, MT-810, MT-831
Project Manager, Mills, Wyoming
Attention: WY-4000, WY-4100, WY-6400
PPL Energy Plus, LLC, Butte, Montana
Attention: Resource Coordinator, Lance Elias

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana

Subject: **Canyon Ferry Water Release Order - CFR No. 12-24**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3789.65; Storage: 1,652,448 acre-feet; River Release: 5,085 cfs; Inflow: 7,200 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Irrigation demands for the Helena Valley Irrigation Project has increased. The snowmelt runoff is slowly continuing and the revised water supply outlook has declined. Inflows into Canyon Ferry are 7,200 cfs and forecast to slowly increase. To conserve storage and assure the reservoir of filling, the following operation change is required at Canyon Ferry Dam & Powerplant. With the ongoing maintenance and replacement of the excitation system on Unit No. 3, turbine releases are still being restricted and limited to 2-unit capacity through May 24. Immediately following the completion of maintenance on Unit No. 3, similar maintenance will be required on Unit No. 2, further restricting and limiting turbine releases to 2-unit capacity.

CANYON FERRY RELEASES AND OPERATIONS: All times are Mountain Standard Time (MST)

At 1100 hour on Tuesday, May 15, 2012:

*Decrease releases through the river outlet gates to 845 cfs.
Maintain releases through the spillway gates at 0 cfs.
Maintain turbine releases at $\approx 3,500$ cfs (≈ 860 MW-Hrs/day using 97.6 cfs/mw).
Maintain releases for Helena Valley Project at 705 cfs (350 cfs pumped to Helena Valley and 365 cfs discharged to the Missouri River).
Decrease release to the Missouri River to 4,800 cfs.
Decrease total release from Canyon Ferry to 5,050 cfs.*

At 0900 hour on Wednesday, May 16, 2012:

*Decrease releases through the river outlet gates to 465 cfs.
Maintain releases through the spillway gates at 0 cfs.
Maintain turbine releases at $\approx 3,500$ cfs (≈ 860 MW-Hrs/day using 97.6 cfs/mw).
Increase releases for Helena Valley Project to 735 cfs (360 cfs pumped to Helena Valley and 375 cfs discharged to the Missouri River).
Decrease release to the Missouri River to 4,340 cfs.
Decrease total release from Canyon Ferry to 4,700 cfs.*

/S/ Tim H. Felchle