

Letter #: 1046
Date Received: 12/16/2022
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Subject: Comments on Supplemental EIS for December 2007 Record of Decision Entitled Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages

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These initial scoping comments are based on the DOI's recent 2007 Interim Guidelines SEIS Public Informational Webinars.

We believe that the Bureau of Reclamation should begin operating Lake Powell and Lake Mead in a manner that will fully preserve the ability of Glen Canyon Dam and Hoover Dam not only to prevent water levels in each reservoir from dropping below Dead Pool levels, but to preserve both dams ability to continue generating 100% of the electrical power they were designed to generate. If that combined generation capacity should be lost due to wasteful water usage and evaporation, the energy grid of the entire southwestern United States would be at risk. In addition, both dams and reservoirs must be operated in a manner which allows the US to provide Mexico the full allotments of water required by the 2017 Minute 323 treaty with Republic of Mexico.

The SEIS should include detailed consideration of an alternative that will achieve all the goals listed above.

Left to their own devices, the states have demonstrated that they will continue talking indefinitely, but will refuse to adopt any real compromises required to avoid the loss of both water and power from the two reservoirs. It is past time for the federal government to step in and take whatever actions necessary to preserve both reservoirs as irreplaceable sources of water and power to ensure the survival of the Southwestern United States.

Please add us to our list of parties requested to receive future DOI updates regarding this process.

Thank You,

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