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Tommy P. Beaudreau
Deputy Secretary, Department of the Interior
Reclamation 2007 Interim Guidelines SEIS Project Manager
Upper Colorado Basin Region
125 South State Street, Suite 8100
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138
By email to CRinterimops@usbr.gov

Mr. Beaudreau,

Conserve Southwest Utah is a nonprofit advocacy organization headquartered in St. George, Utah. Our mission is to advocate for conservation and stewardship of our area's natural and cultural resources and implementation of Smart Growth policies that enable conservation for the benefit of present and future generations.

We have been active in local and state water policy for many years, we have commented extensively on the proposed Lake Powell Pipeline project, and we are familiar with analyses and reports published by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation).

We offer the following comments and request that the scope of the Supplementary Environmental Impact Statement on the 2007 Interim Guidelines for management of the Colorado River be expanded to address our concerns.

- Management of the Glen Canyon and Hoover Dams and the Lake Powell and Lake Mead Reservoirs should not provide water for projects that have not been initiated or which have not been funded.
- 2. Management of the Glen Canyon and Hoover Dams and the Lake Powell and Lake Mead Reservoirs should not provide water for projects that primarily seek to recharge ground water reservoirs.
- 3. Management of the Glen Canyon and Hoover Dams and the Lake Powell and Lake Mead Reservoirs should not provide water for projects that would constitute a transfer of water from the Upper Basin to the Lower Basin.

- 4. High priority should be given to ecological impacts from altered operations at Lake Powell and Lake Mead. The ecologies of these portions of the rivers have been detrimentally affected for many decades and the impacts on species and attendant impacts on humans' environment have been given too little weight.
- 5. Reclamation must develop—and the Basin states must agree to—a common definition of depletions from (and return flows to) the Colorado River basin.

Thank you very much. We look forward to reviewing the SEIS this spring.

Sincerely,

Ed Andrechak Water Program Manager Conserve Southwest Utah ed@conserveswu.org