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

April 8, 2014

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-6040
Assistant Superintendent, National Park Service, Lovell, Wyoming
Attention: Valerie Newman

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana /s/ Clayton R. Jordan

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 14-35**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

Elevation: 3614.86; Storage: 793,709 acre-feet; River Release: 6,500 cfs; Inflow: 4,949 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS

This water order is a revision of Yellowtail Water Release Order BHR No. 14-34. An inspection and flushing of the Yellowtail Dam spillway tunnel scheduled for Wednesday, April 9, 2014, has been canceled.

Annual maintenance of the Yellowtail Aftebay Dam sluiceway gates is scheduled for April 14 through April 25, 2014. The Yellowtail Afterbay Reservoir level must be maintained above elevation 3186.0 feet during 0800 hour on Monday, April 14 through 1700 hour on Friday, April 25, 2014, to maintain all river flows through the radial gates.

In response, the following operations are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant and Yellowtail Afterbay Dam.

SPECIAL NOTE: To provide the proper mixing of water releases to the Bighorn River in attempt to minimize PSAT levels, it is desirable to maintain the Yellowtail Afterbay Reservoir at or above elevation 3184.50 feet and provide a mixing flow of approximately 85% through the spillway gates and 15% through the sluice gates, plus or minus 5%. The Yellowtail Afterbay level must be maintained at or above elevation 3184.0 feet at all times to maintain the current river release.

As described in Yellowtail Water Release Order BHR No. 13-29, the Yellowtail Dam tailrace elevation must be maintained no higher than elevation 3190.0 feet.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE

During 0800 hour on Monday, April 14, 2014 through 1700 hour on Friday, April 25, 2014:
Maintain average daily turbine release at 6,430 cfs (≈ 4,700 MW-Hours/day using 32.8 cfs/mw).

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION

During 0800 hour on Monday, April 14, 2014 through 1700 hour on Friday, April 25, 2014:
Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.
Maintain river release at 6,500 cfs (maintain the gage height at 62.16 and with a +0.22 shift).
Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 6,500 cfs.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

During 0800 hour on Monday, April 14, 2014 through 1700 hour on Friday, April 25, 2014:
Maintain the Yellowtail Afterbay Reservoir between elevation 3186.0 and 3190.0 feet.