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

July 22, 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. 14-70**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3640.10; Storage: 1,021,835 acre-feet; River Release: 3,500 cfs; Inflow: 4,420 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Release to the Bighorn River will be decreased as inflows continue to decline. Recent streamflow data indicate the need to apply a new shift to the Bighorn River gage. 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 between a maximum elevation of 3192.0 feet and a minimum elevation of 3183.6 feet and provide a mixing flow of approximately 75% through the spillway gates and 25% through the sluice gates, plus or minus 10%.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 0800 hour on Wednesday, July 23, 2014:
Decrease average daily turbine release to 3,530 cfs (≈ 2,870 MW-Hours/day using 29.5 cfs/mw).
At 1600 hour on Wednesday, July 23, 2014:
Decrease average daily turbine release to 3,030 cfs (≈ 2,465 MW-Hours/day using 29.5 cfs/mw).

Restrict and limit turbine release to 3-unit capacity.

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 0800 hour on Wednesday, July 23, 2014:
Maintain diversion to the Bighorn Canal at 600 cfs (gage height = 74.56 with -0.22 shift).
Decrease river release to 3,000 cfs (gage height = 61.04 and apply a new shift of -0.65).
Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 3,600 cfs.
At 1600 hour on Wednesday, July 23, 2014:
Maintain diversion to the Bighorn Canal at 600 cfs (gage height = 74.56 with -0.22 shift).
Decrease river release to 2,500 cfs (gage height = 60.65 with -0.65 shift).
Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 3,100 cfs.