



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

January 12, 2015

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/ Tim H. Felchle

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 15-12**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3629.93; Storage: 910,689 acre-feet; River Release: 2,830 cfs; Inflow: 2,125 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

On January 12, WAPA will be performing work on the YT 115 KV main bus in the switchyard, which will limit turbine releases to only Unit #4 (maximum of ≈ 62 MW). In response, the following operation is 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:

During 0800 hour through 1300 hour on Monday, January 12, 2015:

Reduce average daily turbine release to $\approx 1,805$ cfs ($\approx 1,335$ MW-Hours/day using 32.5 cfs/mw).

Limit turbine release to 1-unit capacity.

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

During 0800 hour through 1300 hour on Monday, January 12, 2015:

Maintain diversion to the Bighorn Canal at 0.

Maintain river release at 2,830 cfs (gage height = 60.29 and apply a shift of -0.03 ft).

Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 2,830 cfs.

After WAPA completes maintenance, normal operations shall return as previously scheduled.

