



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 2, 2015

FAXOGRAM: Water Order Change

To: Chief, Power Supply and Billing Division, WAPA, Watertown, South Dakota
Attention: F-6300
Chief, Power Dispatching Branch, WAPA, Loveland, Colorado
Attention: J-4120
Facilities Manager, Helena, Montana
Attention: MT-800, MT-810, MT-831
Project Manager, Mills, Wyoming
Attention: WY-4000, WY-4100, WY-6400
Northwestern Energy, Butte, Montana
Attention: Resource Coordinator, Deb Mallowney

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana /S/ Stephanie Micek

Subject: **Canyon Ferry Water Release Order - CFR No. 15-16**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3785.90; Storage: 1,534,469 acre-feet; River Release: 4,010 cfs; Inflow: 4,240 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

The snowpack above Canyon Ferry is 70% of average and the April 1, 2015 April through July runoff forecast is at 64% of average. In close coordination with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Canyon Ferry Reservoir releases will be reduced to rates that will maintain flows no lower than 3,700 cfs below Holter Dam to better assure filling Canyon Ferry this spring. In response, the following operation changes are required at Canyon Ferry Dam and Powerplant.

CANYON FERRY RELEASES AND OPERATIONS: Times are Mountain Standard Time (MST)

At 0100 hour on Sunday, April 5, 2015:

Maintain releases through the river outlet gates at 0 cfs.

Maintain releases through the spillway gates at 0 cfs.

Decrease turbine release to $\approx 3,700$ cfs (≈ 36 MW-Hr/hr using 101.7 cfs/mw).

Maintain release for Helena Valley Project at 210 cfs (100 cfs pumped to Helena Valley and 110 cfs discharged to the Missouri River).

Decrease release to the Missouri River to 3,810 cfs.

Decrease total release from Canyon Ferry to 3,910 cfs

At 0100 hour on Monday, April 6, 2015:

Maintain releases through the river outlet gates to 0 cfs.

Maintain releases through the spillway gates at 0 cfs.

Decrease turbine release to $\approx 3,500$ cfs (≈ 34 MW-Hr/hr using 101.7 cfs/mw).

Maintain release for Helena Valley Project at 210 cfs (100 cfs pumped to Helena Valley and 110 cfs discharged to the Missouri River).

Decrease release to the Missouri River to 3,610 cfs.

Decreases total release from Canyon Ferry to 3,710 cfs