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COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION
OF NEVADA

September 9, 2010

Mr. Paul J. Matuska, Group Manager
Attention: LC-4200
United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Regional Office
P.O. Box 61470
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470

RE: Estimate of Nevada's Colorado River Diversions – Calendar Year 2011

Dear Mr. Matuska:

In accordance with 43 Code of Federal Regulations Part 417 (37 *Federal Register* 18076, Sept. 7, 1972) and in response to your letter dated July 28, 2010, the State of Nevada submits this estimate of Colorado River diversions for calendar year 2011.

Colorado River Basic Apportionment

Nevada currently anticipates consumptive use of its entire basic apportionment of 300,000 acre-feet in calendar year 2011. Based upon an estimated Nevada return flow volume of 215,000 acre-feet, Nevada requests approval for the diversion of 515,000 acre-feet in calendar year 2011. This corresponds to a diversion to consumptive use ratio of approximately 1.72, which is a reasonable estimate and within the range of historical values. A schedule of estimated monthly Colorado River diversions for calendar year 2011 is provided as Attachment 1.

Intentionally Created Surplus

By letter to Ms. Lorri Lee, dated July 21, 2010, the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) transmitted to the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) its 2011 Plans of Creation (Plans) for Tributary Conservation Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) for the Muddy and Virgin Rivers in Nevada and Imported ICS from Coyote Spring Valley groundwater in accordance with the *Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and the Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead* (Guidelines). The SNWA anticipates creating up to 17,000 acre-feet of ICS on the Virgin River and up to 20,000 acre-feet of ICS on the Muddy River for a total of up to 37,000 acre-feet of Tributary Conservation ICS during calendar year 2011, and up to 7,000 acre-feet of Coyote Spring Valley Groundwater Imported ICS in calendar year 2011. The total volume of ICS the SNWA anticipates creating in calendar year 2011 is 44,000 acre-feet. Pending approval of the SNWA'S ICS Plans by Reclamation, and appropriately accounting for the 5 percent system assessment, Nevada currently anticipates storing up to 41,800 acre-feet of ICS credits in Lake Mead during calendar year 2011. The above volumes may be modified during the year in accordance with Sections XI.G.3.B.1 and XI.G.3.C.9 of the Guidelines.

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Unforeseen conditions make it difficult to estimate monthly water use needs a year in advance. With this in mind, please note that this water order request may be modified during calendar year 2011 as additional information become available, and that Nevada will submit a revised water order to reflect such modifications. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 702-486-2672.

Sincerely,

McClain Peterson
Manager, Natural Resources Group

NAE/jln

Enclosure

cc: National Park Service
Comprehensive Planning, City of Las Vegas
Utility Services Division, City of Henderson
Southern Nevada Water Authority
Water Operations, Big Bend Water District
Dept. of Public Works, City of North Las Vegas
Nevada Department of Wildlife
Nellis Air Force Base
City of Boulder City
Basic Water Company
PABCO
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe

2011 Diversion Request													
State Of Nevada													
Consumptive Use = 300,000 acre-feet													
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Above Hoover													
Southern Nevada Water System	38,232	34,850	39,977	34,924	44,395	39,975	44,558	45,808	35,869	41,187	39,413	38,513	477,703
BMI City of Henderson	633	831	818	1,035	2,140	2,549	2,203	1,963	1,361	688	763	894	15,878
BMI Basic Water Company	605	708	827	691	657	589	825	765	671	705	571	594	8,208
Pabco	66	70	78	87	80	69	89	93	73	81	70	72	928
Nevada Division of Wildlife	4	3	2	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	5	59
National Recreation Area	49	31	51	48	50	52	60	59	59	38	36	35	568
Boulder City (Hoover)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Boulder Canyon Project	5	5	7	6	6	8	8	9	6	4	4	4	72
Total Above Hoover	**39,594**	**36,498**	**41,761**	**36,796**	**47,333**	**43,247**	**47,749**	**48,703**	**38,045**	**42,709**	**40,863**	**40,117**	**503,415**
Below Hoover													
Southern California Edison	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	600
Big Bend Water District	289	286	336	376	420	434	472	458	577	473	420	420	4,961
National Recreation Area (Cottonwood)	16	18	21	18	21	10	27	21	21	21	15	15	224
Ft. Mojave Indian Reservation	100	300	400	500	500	900	900	900	500	400	300	100	5,800
Total Below Hoover	**455**	**654**	**807**	**944**	**991**	**1,394**	**1,449**	**1,429**	**1,148**	**944**	**785**	**585**	**11,585**
Total Nevada Diversions	**40,049**	**37,152**	**42,568**	**37,740**	**48,324**	**44,641**	**49,198**	**50,132**	**39,194**	**43,653**	**41,649**	**40,702**	**515,000**

Note: On July 21, 2010, the SNWA transmitted to the Bureau of Reclamation its Plans of Creation for Tributary Conservation and Imported ICS. As documented in those plans and the accompanying cover letter, the SNWA anticipates creating up to 37,000 acre-feet of Tributary Conservation ICS and up to 7,000 acre-feet of Imported ICS, for a cumulative total of up to 44,000 acre-feet of ICS during calendar year 2011. The schedule above is predicated upon storing up to 41,800 acre-feet (accounting for the 5% system assessment) of ICS credits in Lake Mead during calendar year 2011, and is subject to change.