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**COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION
OF NEVADA**

September 15, 2015

Terry Fulp, Ph.D., Regional Director
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 2016

Dear Dr. Fulp:

In accordance with 43 Code of Federal Regulations Part 417 (37 *Federal Register* 18076, Sept. 7, 1972) and in response to your letter dated August 3, 2015, the State of Nevada submits this estimate of Colorado River diversions for calendar year 2016.

Colorado River Basic Apportionment

Nevada currently anticipates consumptive use of 282,500 acre-feet of its basic apportionment in calendar year 2016. The Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) anticipates leaving 17,500 acre-feet in Lake Mead by forgoing off-stream storage as part of their commitment under the 2014 Memorandum of Understanding for Pilot Drought Response Actions. Based upon an estimated Nevada return flow volume of 197,500 acre-feet, Nevada requests approval for the diversion of 480,000 acre-feet in calendar year 2016. This corresponds to a Nevada diversion to consumptive use ratio of approximately 1.7, which is a reasonable estimate and within the range of historical values.

A schedule of estimated monthly Colorado River diversions for calendar year 2016 is provided as Attachment 1.

Intentionally Created Surplus

By letter dated June, 2015, and updated in July, 2015, the SNWA transmitted to the Bureau of Reclamation its 2016 Plans of Creation 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

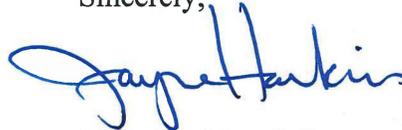
SNWA anticipates creating up to 37,000 acre-feet of Tributary Conservation ICS, and up to 9,000 acre-feet of Coyote Spring Valley Groundwater Imported ICS in calendar year 2016, for a total volume of up to 46,000 acre-feet of ICS; up to 7,500 acre-feet of this anticipated ICS will be dedicated to the Colorado River Pilot System Conservation Program.

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.

Unforeseen conditions make it difficult to estimate monthly water use needs a year in advance. With this in mind, please note that this request may be amended during calendar year 2016 as additional information becomes available, and that Nevada will submit a revised water order to reflect such modifications.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Warren Turkett at (702) 486-2679.

Sincerely,



Jayne Harkins, P.E.
Executive Director

JH:WT:clp

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

DRAFT 2016 Diversion Request (Attachment 1)

State Of Nevada

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Above Hoover													
Southern Nevada Water System	26,600	25,147	33,712	37,496	46,860	44,352	45,916	43,214	38,023	40,163	30,841	25,852	438,176
BMI City of Henderson	1,159	1,035	1,239	1,539	1,791	1,254	1,226	1,407	1,267	1,648	1,110	1,203	15,878
BMI Basic Water Company	618	553	484	531	670	695	871	905	732	913	666	570	8,208
Pabco	97	82	61	63	69	69	86	89	76	82	80	74	928
Nevada Division of Wildlife	30	62	31	35	32	30	30	30	32	33	30	30	405
National Recreation Area	33	28	32	35	40	37	46	34	35	30	23	30	403
Boulder City	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Boulder Canyon Project	15	15	23	31	38	16	31	31	31	23	23	23	300
Total Above Hoover	28,552	26,922	35,582	39,730	49,500	46,453	48,206	45,710	40,196	42,892	32,773	27,782	464,298
Below Hoover													
Big Bend Water District	640	613	750	851	934	1,005	1,104	1,040	912	865	714	572	10,000
National Recreation Area (Cottonwood)	11	11	12	11	13	14	16	15	13	12	13	11	152
Ft. Mojave Indian Reservation	200	400	400	600	800	800	600	600	400	400	400	200	5,800
Total Below Hoover	851	1,024	1,162	1,462	1,747	1,819	1,720	1,655	1,325	1,277	1,127	783	15,952
Total Nevada Diversions	29,403	27,946	36,744	41,192	51,247	48,272	49,926	47,365	41,521	44,169	33,900	28,565	480,250

CU Ratio 1.7

Notes: Up to 46,000 acre-feet of Tributary Conservation and Imported Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) credits are planned to be created in 2016, of which up to 7,500 af will be dedicated to the Colorado River Pilot System Conservation Program.

Mr. Terry Fulp, Ph. D, Regional Director
Attention: LC-4200
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Regional Office
P.O. Box 61470
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470

Mr. Mark Paris
President/CEO
Basic Management, Inc.
Basic Water Company
875 West Warm Springs Road
Henderson, NV 89011-4063

Mr. Jeff Theuret
Water Operations Supervisor
Big Bend Water District
1520 Thomas Edison Drive
Laughlin, NV 89029-1600

Mr. Skip Spilman
Energy & Conservation Specialist
City of Boulder City
401 California Avenue
Boulder City, NV 89005

Ms. Laura Giuliano
Water Pollution Control Facility
City of Las Vegas
6005 East Vegas Valley Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89142

Mr. Doug Rankin
Project Manager
Planning & Development Department
City of Las Vegas
333 N. Rancho Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89106

Ms. Priscilla Howell
Utility Services Director
City of Henderson
P.O. Box 95050 MSC 125
Henderson, NV 89009-5050

Mr. Randall E. DeVaul, P.E
Director of Utilities
City of North Las Vegas
2250 Las Vegas Boulevard, North
North Las Vegas, NV 89030-5201

Mr. John Algots
Director, Physical Resources
Fort Mohave Indian Tribe
500 Merriman Avenue
Needles, CA 92363-2299

Mr. Bruce Nyhuis
Assistant Chief of Maintenance
National Park Service
601 Nevada Highway
Boulder City, NV 89005-2426

Commanding Officer
99th CES/CEOEF
6020 Beale Avenue
Nellis AFB, NV 89191

Mr. Todd Wright
Nevada Department of Wildlife
Lake Mead Fish Hatchery
245 Lakeshore Road
Henderson, NV 89005

Mr. Lenny Ordway
Office Manager
PABCO Gypsum
P.O. Box 364329
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-8329

Mr. John Entsminger
General Manager
Southern Nevada Water Authority
P.O. Box 99956, MS 485
Las Vegas, NV 89193-9956