



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
P.O. Box 61470  
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470



IN REPLY REFER TO:

LCB-4225  
2.2.4.23

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Anieul Echard JR  
General Manager  
Palo Verde Irrigation District  
180 West 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Blythe, CA 92225

Subject: Approval of Calendar Year (CY) 2025 Colorado River Water Diversion – Palo Verde Irrigation District (PVID)

Dear Mr. Echard:

The Bureau of Reclamation has received PVID's CY 2025 Colorado River water diversion estimate in which PVID requests approval to divert up to 848,000 acre-feet (AF) and to consumptively use up to 420,044 AF in CY 2025. In accordance with Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations Part 417 (Part 417), this letter provides PVID with my determination regarding PVID's proposed diversion and beneficial use of Colorado River water for CY 2025.

Water rights for lands located within PVID are based on the California Seven-Party Agreement of 1931 and PVID's 1933 Colorado River Water Delivery Contract with the Bureau of Reclamation, which establish a priority system for delivery of Colorado River water to California water districts. PVID has a Priority 1 right to sufficient water to irrigate up to 104,500 acres of land located in the Palo Verde Valley and a Priority 3(b) right to irrigate up to 16,000 acres of land on the Palo Verde Mesa.

On August 15, 2024, Reclamation released its Colorado River Basin August 2024 24-Month Study,<sup>1</sup> which projects Lake Mead's most probable elevation on January 1, 2025, to be 1,062.32 feet. In its letter dated August 26, 2024, Reclamation announced that, in accordance with the 2007 Interim Guidelines,<sup>2</sup> Lake Mead and the lower Colorado River will operate in a Tier 1 Shortage Condition in CY 2025. In addition, the 2019 *Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan Agreement* (LB DCP Agreement) will also govern the operation of Lake Mead for CY 2025. The CY 2025 lower Colorado River Shortage Condition will not reduce the volume of Colorado River water available to the state of California in CY 2025. Additionally, no Drought Contingency Plan Contributions are required by California in CY 2025.

<sup>1</sup> Available at <https://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/24mo/>.

<sup>2</sup> Referring to *Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and the Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead* dated December 13, 2007.

Based upon the Shortage Condition determination, a review of the CY 2025 diversion estimate provided by PVID, and the information gathered during Reclamation's Part 417 consultation, I approve the diversion of up to 848,000 AF of Colorado River water during CY 2025 for use in PVID's service area. This approved diversion results in an estimated consumptive use of 420,044 AF.

Reclamation would like to highlight that, in accordance with the *Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Policy*,<sup>3</sup> **accumulations of inadvertent overruns are not permitted in CY 2025 and are suspended as long as a Shortage condition is in effect.** To assist entitlement holders in monitoring their Colorado River water use to ensure they remain within available quantities, Reclamation will project diversions and consumptive use of Colorado River water during CY 2025 and will make these projections available daily on Reclamation's Lower Colorado River Water Accounting website<sup>4</sup> beginning in January 2025. Reclamation encourages Colorado River water entitlement holders to use the projections to adjust diversions to remain within their Reclamation-approved annual Colorado River water order.

Thank you for submitting PVID's diversion estimate for CY 2025. Should you have questions, please contact Jeremy Dodds, Water Accounting and Verification Group Manager, at (702) 293-8164 or [jdodds@usbr.gov](mailto:jdodds@usbr.gov). Individuals who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunication relay services.

Sincerely,

Jacklynn L. Gould, P.E.  
Regional Director

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<sup>3</sup> Available at: <https://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/IOPP.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> Available at: <https://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/hourly/forecast.pdf>.

cc: Continued from previous page.

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