



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lower Colorado Regional Office
P.O. Box 61470
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470

MAY 02 2012

IN REPLY REFER TO:
LC-4220
WTR-4.03

CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Honorable Timothy Williams
Chairman
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
500 Merriman Avenue
Needles, CA 92363-2299

Subject: Verification of 2011 Inadvertent Overrun Payback by the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe –
California Reservation (Tribe)

Dear Chairman Williams:

Effective January 1, 2004, the Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Policy (IOPP) established requirements for payback of inadvertent overuse of Colorado River water by users in the Lower Division States. In accordance with the IOPP, and the Tribe's approved 2011 Payback Plan (Plan), the Tribe implemented a Crop Substitution/Partial-Year Fallowing Program (Program) during calendar year 2011 to pay back 2,049 acre-feet of the Tribe's remaining overrun account balance.

By letter dated February 6, 2012, the Tribe submitted a report (2011 IOPP certification report) certifying that the Tribe successfully implemented the extraordinary conservation measures defined in the Tribe's approved Plan, and conserved the 2,049 acre-feet required to meet the Tribe's 2011 payback obligation.

The Bureau of Reclamation performed an independent verification to ensure the Tribe implemented the extraordinary conservation measures identified in the Tribe's approved Plan. On July 28, 2011, Reclamation conducted a field verification inspection during which 100 percent of the 997 acres in the Tribe's Program was checked. Additionally, Reclamation conducted an analysis on the fields in the Program using satellite imagery. Based upon this verification and analysis, Reclamation confirms that the Tribe implemented the extraordinary conservation measures as documented in the Tribe's 2011 IOPP certification report.

The Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Technical Committee (IOPTC) reviewed the Tribe's 2011 IOPP certification report and recommended its adequacy on March 29, 2012. Taking into consideration the recommendations provided by the IOPTC members, I verify and make the final determination that the Tribe successfully conserved 2,049 acre-feet of Colorado River water during calendar year 2011 as documented in its 2011 IOPP certification report, and therefore credit the Tribe with this amount of payback for calendar year 2011.

Reclamation notes that provisional data as of April 11, 2012, indicate that the Tribe exceeded its approved diversion for calendar year 2011 by 155 acre-feet. In accordance with Reclamation's current administration of the IOPP, Reclamation will account for this as a new overrun in the 2011 Colorado River Accounting and Water Use Report, Arizona, California, and Nevada, requiring the Tribe to submit a new payback plan.

If you have questions, please contact Mr. Paul Matuska, Water Accounting and Verification Group Manager, at 702-293-8164.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Gabaldon
Acting Regional Director

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Catherine Wilson
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