



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lower Colorado Regional Office
P.O. Box 61470
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470
MAY 12 2015

IN REPLY REFER TO:
LC-4220
WTR-4.03

CERTIFIED – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Youmans
Beattie Farms Southwest
3025 NW Firwood Place
Corvallis, OR 97330

Mr. Richard Prinster
Beattie Farms Southwest
1551 Mammoth Drive
O'Fallon, MO 63366

Subject: Approval of Revised Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Policy (IOPP) Payback Plan for Calendar Year 2015 – Beattie Farms Southwest (Farm)

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Youmans and Mr. Prinster:

Effective January 1, 2004, the IOPP established requirements for payback of inadvertent overuse of Colorado River water by users in the Lower Division States. By letter dated February 12, 2015, the Bureau of Reclamation notified the Farm that, based on Reclamation's provisional water accounting records, the Farm exceeded its adjusted Colorado River water entitlement for calendar year 2014 by 69 acre-feet (AF).¹ Pursuant to Section 2.9 of the IOPP, the Farm is required to pay back this exceedance in 2015. When added to the Farm's existing 2015 payback obligation of 37 AF, the Farm's revised 2015 payback obligation is 106 AF.

In response to Reclamation's letter, and in accordance with the IOPP, Griffin Ranches, Inc., on behalf of the Farm, submitted a revised IOPP Payback Plan (Plan) for calendar year 2015 by email dated March 23, 2015. As outlined in the Farm's revised Plan, the Farm will implement a fallowing program in calendar year 2015 in which 114.46 acres will be taken out of agricultural production. Implementation of the fallowing is anticipated to conserve 229 AF, which will meet the Farm's revised 2015 payback obligation of 106 AF.

On April 16, 2015, the Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Technical Committee (IOPTC) reviewed the Plan for technical adequacy and unanimously recommended its approval. Taking into consideration the recommendation of the IOPTC, I make the final determination that the Farm's Plan adequately meets the requirements of the IOPP and approve the Plan for implementation during calendar year 2015.

¹The Farm had a payback obligation in 2014 for overruns the Farm incurred in 2011 and 2012.

The IOPP requires that Reclamation monitor implementation of the extraordinary conservation measures outlined in approved payback plans. Reclamation will utilize quarterly field inspections on 100 percent of the fallowed acres and other methods, including analysis of satellite imagery, to verify the Farm has implemented the following program in accordance with its approved Plan.

I remind you that, pursuant to Section 2.9 of the IOPP, should preliminary determinations indicate that sufficient extraordinary conservation or sufficient forbearance of Colorado River water is not projected to occur, Reclamation will notify the Farm of this projection in writing. Reclamation will consult with the Farm on a modified schedule, and will limit releases to the Farm in 2015 such that by the end of the year the Farm has fully met its payback obligation.

Reclamation's administration of the IOPP requires that the Farm submit a report certifying the amount of Colorado River water conserved by implementation of the extraordinary conservation measures in the previous calendar year as defined in Farm's approved Plan. Please submit a report, certifying the amount of conservation achieved in calendar year 2015, to Reclamation no later than February 29, 2016.

Thank you for submitting the Farm's Revised IOPP Payback Plan for Calendar Year 2015. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Paul Matuska, Water Accounting and Verification Group Manager, at 702-293-8164.

Sincerely,



Terrance J. Fulp, Ph.D.
Regional Director

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