



United States Department of the Interior

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

MAY 20 2019

IN REPLY REFER TO:
LC-4000
2.2.4.23

Mr. John Entsminger
General Manager
Southern Nevada Water Authority
1001 South. Valley View Boulevard, MS 480
Las Vegas, NV 89153

Mr. Eric Witkoski
Executive Director
Colorado River Commission of Nevada
555 East Washington Ave, Suite 3100
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Dear Messrs. Entsminger and Witkoski:

Thank you for your letter to Commissioner Burman dated May 6, 2019, submitting the state of Nevada's Extraordinary Conservation Intentionally Created Surplus (EC ICS) exhibit (listed below) to the Secretary of the Interior for approval pursuant to Section IV.E.2 of Exhibit 1 to the Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan Agreement. We note that the ability of the Lower Division States to create additional ICS in Lake Mead, as well the increased flexibility to use ICS, are key components of the Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan Agreement to protect critical elevations at Lake Mead. The Bureau of Reclamation appreciated the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) EC ICS exhibit in its early stage of development.

Exhibit Designation	Exhibit Name
LB Ops ICS Exhibit W	Southern Nevada Water Authority – Extraordinary Conservation Intentionally Created Surplus (EC ICS) Using Municipal Conservation and Offstream Storage for Implementation under the Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan

As you are aware, Section 7.B.5 of the *Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and the Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead* (2007 Interim Guidelines), provides that the Secretary shall consult with the Colorado River Basin States in the administration of the ICS program. SNWA's proposed EC ICS exhibit has undergone both intra and interstate review, and Reclamation has facilitated and brought to conclusion the consultation process with the Basin States for SNWA's proposed EC ICS exhibit.

Reclamation has determined that the proposed exhibit describes an EC ICS project that comports to Section 3.A.1 of the 2007 Interim Guidelines and adequately describes an approach for Reclamation to verify the conservation of water. Therefore, in accordance with Section IV.E.2 of Exhibit 1 to the Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan Agreement and the 2007 Interim Guidelines, I hereby approve SNWA's EC ICS exhibit. The approved exhibit will be posted on Reclamation's website soon.

Section 3.C.1 of the 2007 Interim Guidelines requires a Delivery Agreement for ICS between the ICS creator and Reclamation. Based on the approved exhibit, we will work with SNWA to develop a new or amendatory ICS Delivery Agreement. Reclamation also looks forward to working with SNWA each year in administering the ICS program, including the review and approval of ICS creation plans and certification reports.

If you have questions, please contact Mr. Steven Hvinden, Chief, Boulder Canyon Operations Office, at 702-293-8414 or shvinden@usbr.gov.

Sincerely,



Terrance J. Fulp, Ph.D.
Regional Director

cc: Mr. Jeffrey Kightlinger
General Manager
The Metropolitan Water District
Of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Mr. Thomas Buschatzke
Director
Arizona Department of Water Resources
P.O. 36020
Phoenix, AZ 85067-6020

Mr. Christopher Harris
Executive Director
Colorado River Board of California
770 Fairmont Avenue, Suite 100
Glendale, CA 91203

Ms. Amy I. Haas
Executive Director
Upper Colorado River Commission
355 South 400 East
Salt Lake City, UT 84111