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**Date:** 7/26/05 2:04PM  
**Subject:** The dam also provides another benefit: electricity.

Regional Director  
Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region  
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"Glen Canyon Dam is an insurance policy for the Upper Basin," said Larry Anderson, director of the State of Utah's Division of Water Resources. "It allows us to meet our downstream commitment without having to cut off any of our water users."

"The dam also provides another benefit: electricity. With a capacity for nearly 1300 megawatts of electricity, enough power for about a quarter-million homes, the dam provides power to rural electrical co-ops, municipalities, irrigation and electrical districts, Indian reservations and governmental facilities throughout the southwest. This power, produced by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) and marketed by the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), an agency of the Department of Energy, is the primary source of revenue for paying back the dam's capital costs, and operation and maintenance costs."

"Until 1991, water releases out of Glen Canyon Dam for downstream users were orchestrated to maximize power production..."

"People need to understand that Glen Canyon Dam has gone from a 1,300 megawatt resource, to a 900 megawatt resource and even down to 330 megawatts this past summer," said Leslie James, executive director of the Colorado River Energy Distributors Association, an organization representing over 130 power providers in the Colorado River Basin and member of the Adaptive Management Work Group. "You take that amount of capacity out of the western wholesale market and its going to have a serious impact on prices."

<<http://www.water-ed.org/rrwinter0001.asp>> Life after NEPA, ESA, and AMP

Thank you , Steve Parmelee, Snowmass, Colorado

Storing water at the higher elevation means less evaporation. Thus keeping Lake Powell nearly full will be the better storage location.

We support 7.5 MAF released annually from Lake Powell as the Maximum...per your request :

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Reclamation Seeks Public Comment on Development of Management Strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead Under Low Reservoir Conditions

The Bureau of Reclamation today filed a Federal Register Notice requesting

public comment on the development of management strategies for Lakes Powell and Mead, on the Colorado River, under low reservoir conditions. Among the management strategies anticipated are shortage guidelines for the Lower Colorado River Basin.

The strategies will likely identify those circumstances under which the Department of the Interior would reduce annual Colorado River water deliveries and the manner in which annual operations of the Colorado River reservoirs would be modified under low reservoir conditions.

The Department expects the strategies to provide guidance to the Secretary's Annual Operating Plan decisions, and provide more predictability to water users throughout the Basin, particularly the Lower Basin states of Arizona, California, and Nevada.

The Annual Operating Plan - developed in consultation with the Basin States, water and power users, Tribes, environmental and recreational groups and other interested parties - guides operation of the Colorado River. Among other elements, it specifies whether the amount of Colorado River water available to be released from Lake Mead to Lower Basin users in a given year will be "normal" (7.5 million acre-feet), "surplus" (more than 7.5 million acre-feet) or "shortage" (less than 7.5 million acre-feet).

<http://www.usbr.gov/newsroom/newsrelease/detail.cfm?RecordID=6061>

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