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Date: 6/21/05 5:05PM
Subject: A sustainable water supply for the west

Gale Norton
Executive Secretary
Department of the Interior
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Robert Johnson
Regional Director
Bureau of Reclamation
Lower Colorado Region
Attention: BCOO-1000
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Rick Gold
Regional Director
Bureau of Reclamation
Upper Colorado Region
Attention: UC-402
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Dear Secretary Norton and Regional Directors:

The steadily dropping water levels at Lake Powell reservoir on the Colorado River revealed spectacular features not seen in decades. These cultural, biological, and scenic resources found only in Glen Canyon are now threatened by fluctuating reservoir levels.

Restored precious features such as Cathedral in the Desert, Register Rock, petroglyphs, and Fort Moqui are going right back under water, only to be uncovered once again later this year.

This fluctuation of water levels is unnecessary and destructive to these priceless emerging cultural, historic, and scenic sites in Glen Canyon.

All "surplus" water of the Colorado River can easily be stored at Lake Mead instead of in Glen Canyon. We urge the Bureau of Reclamation to protect these priceless treasures by storing "surplus" water in Lake Mead instead. Please uphold the established legal protections for priceless sacred and historical sites and emerging endangered species habitats. Please protect Glen Canyon for future generations.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring these remarks to your attention.

Mindful of the enormous responsibilities which stand before you, I am,

Yours sincerely,
Robert E. Rutkowski

cc:
Nancy Pelosi
President George W. Bush

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