



**The States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada,
New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming
Governor's Representatives on Colorado River Operations
December 13, 2007**

Whereas, the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming rely on and have a vital interest in the waters of the Colorado River;

Whereas, ongoing drought in the Colorado River Basin has resulted in increased attention to facilitating cooperative efforts regarding Colorado River water management;

Whereas, the U.S. Department of the Interior has sponsored a public process for development and adoption of Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead;


Whereas, the seven States have provided important input, in the form of public comments, regarding the development of these Guidelines with submission of information for consideration by the Secretary of the Interior;


Whereas, the seven States conveyed the importance of protecting their respective interests on the Colorado River, including reservation of any and all legal rights regarding the Colorado River;

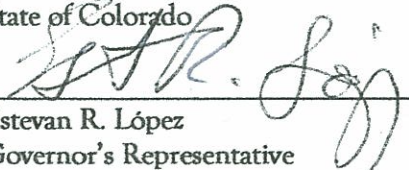
Whereas, the Secretary of the Interior has memorialized a decision regarding the adoption of Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead;


By the undersigned Governors' Representatives of the Colorado River Basin States,

The Seven Colorado River Basin States recognize that the adoption of the Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead represents a historic milestone reflecting the continuation of the consultative approach to river management between the federal government and the affected states on the Colorado River, thereby successfully implementing the principles of federalism:

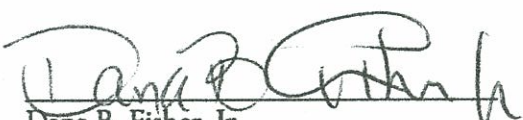


 Herbert R. Guenther
 Governor's Representative
 State of Arizona



 Scott Balcomb
 Governor's Representative
 State of Colorado

 Estevan R. López
 Governor's Representative
 State of New Mexico




 Dennis J. Strong
 Governor's Representative
 State of Utah



 Dana B. Fisher, Jr.
 Governor's Representative
 State of California



 Patricia Mulroy
 Governor's Representative
 State of Nevada



 Patrick T. Tyrrell
 Governor's Representative
 State of Wyoming

Attest:



 DIRK KEMPTHORNE
 Secretary of the Interior