



IN REPLY REFER TO:

UC-402
ENV-6.00

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Upper Colorado Regional Office
125 South State Street, Room 6107
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1147



DEC 12 2006

Subject: Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Adoption of a Long-Term Experimental Plan for the Future Operation of Glen Canyon Dam and Other Associated Management Activities

Dear Interested Party:

In a notice published in the *Federal Register* on November 6, 2006 (copy enclosed), the Bureau of Reclamation announced its intent to prepare an EIS on the adoption of a Long-Term Experimental Plan for the future operation of Glen Canyon Dam and other associated management activities. The purpose of the Long-Term Experimental Plan is to increase understanding of the ecosystem downstream from Glen Canyon Dam and to improve and protect important downstream resources. The proposed plan would implement a structured, long-term program of experimentation (including dam operations, potential modifications to Glen Canyon Dam intake structures, and other potential management actions, such as removal of non-native fish species) in the Colorado River below Glen Canyon Dam.

As part of this National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, Reclamation intends to incorporate information gathered during the scoping process conducted for the environmental assessment for construction of a temperature control device at Glen Canyon Dam. The environmental impacts of constructing and operating a temperature control device at Glen Canyon Dam will now be analyzed in this new NEPA process.

If you would like us to add your name to our mailing list for the Long-Term Experimental Plan EIS, or if you would like to provide comments on the scope of analysis or the issues and alternatives to be analyzed during this NEPA process, **please fill out the enclosed comment card and return it to us no later than Wednesday, February 28, 2007.**

In a subsequent notice published in the *Federal Register* on December 12, 2006, Reclamation provided information on upcoming public scoping meetings, the proposed federal action, the purpose and need for the proposed action, and additional background on the Long-Term Experimental Plan. A copy of that notice is also enclosed for your use.

Two public scoping meetings will be held to solicit comments on the scope of the Long-Term Experimental Plan and the issues and alternatives that should be analyzed. The meetings will serve to expand upon the input received from Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program meetings and the recommendations of the Adaptive Management Work Group (AMWG), a federal advisory committee. In addition, Reclamation will utilize information

developed through prior meetings of the AMWG, Technical Work Group, and Science Planning Group as relevant information for the purposes of scoping the upcoming NEPA process and to develop the appropriate scope of analysis. The scoping meetings will be held at the following locations:

Thursday, January 4, 2007 – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Embassy Suites Phoenix Airport at 44th Street, 1515 North 44th Street, Cholla Room, Phoenix, Arizona.

Friday, January 5, 2007 – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Hilton Salt Lake City Center, 255 South West Temple, Salon 1, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Written comments on the proposed development of the Long-Term Experimental Plan may be sent by close of business on **Wednesday, February 28, 2007**, to: Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Colorado Region, Attention: UC-402, 125 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1147, faxogram at 801-524-3858, or e-mail at GCDExpPlan@uc.usbr.gov.

A project fact sheet is also enclosed to provide you with additional information about this project. If you have any questions or would like more information about this NEPA process, please contact Mr. Dennis Kubly, Bureau of Reclamation at 801-524-3715, faxogram 801-524-3858, or e-mail at GCDExpPlan@uc.usbr.gov. Information about this EIS will be posted to the project website at: <http://www.usbr.gov/uc/rm/gcdltep/index.html>.

Sincerely yours,

Acting
for



Rick L. Gold
Regional Director

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