IN REPLY REFER TO: MT-450

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Great Plains Region
Montana Area Office
P.O. Box 30137
Billings, Montana 59107-0137

March 21, 2008

FAXOGRAM: Water Order Change

To: Chief, Power Supply and Billing Division, WAPA, Watertown, South Dakota
Attention: F-6001
Chief, Power Dispatching Branch, WAPA, Loveland, Colorado
Attention: J-4120
Facilities Manager, Hardin, Montana
Attention: MT-300: Tom Tauscher
Area Manager, Mills, Wyoming
Attention: WY-4000, WY-4100, WY-6400
Assistant Superintendent, National Park Service, Lovell, Wyoming
Attention: John Keck

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 08-07**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3615.11; Storage: 837,456 acre-feet; River Release: 1,900 cfs; Inflow: 1,300 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Power generation indicates actual river flows are slightly higher than anticipated. In response, the following operation change is required at Yellowtail Dam and powerplant to continue conserving storage.

NOTE: This is the time period when fish are more susceptible to high levels of nitrogen gas super-saturation. To provide a more desirable mixing flow of approximately 75% through the spillway gates and 25% through the sluice gates to maintain the total gas super-saturation levels at safe limits, the minimum Afterbay elevation should be maintained at or above elevation 3183 whenever possible. This is only a soft limit and may be deviated from during special or emergency operations.

TURBINE RELEASES:

At 1500 hour on Friday, March 21, 2008:
Maintain average daily turbine release at 1,830 cfs (≈ 1,170 MW-Hrs/day using 37.6 cfs/mw).

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1500 hour on Friday, March 21, 2008:
Maintain diversions to Bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.
Maintain river release at 1,900 cfs (decrease gage height to 59.54 & apply a new shift of -0.05).
Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 1,900 cfs.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle