United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Great Plains Region
Montana Area Office
P.O. Box 30137
Billings, Montana 59107-0137

IN REPLY REFER TO: MT-450

September 2, 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
Project Manager, Mills, Wyoming
Attention: WY-4000, WY-4100, WY-6400
Assistant Superintendent, National Park Service, Lovell, Wyoming
Attention: Jim Staebler

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 08-56**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3638.07; Storage: 1,046,312 acre-feet; River Release: 2,500 cfs; Inflow: 3,840 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Due to recent precipitation received over the past weekend, the BIA called and requested a reduction in diversions to the Bighorn Canal. Generation also indicates current river flows are actually lower than anticipated. In response, the following operation change is required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant.

NOTE: This is the time period when fish are less affected by high levels of nitrogen gas super-saturation. Since mixing flows through the spillway gates and the sluice gates is not required at this time, it is still desirable to provide a mixing flow of approximately 75% through the spillway gates and 25% through the sluice gates whenever the level of the Afterbay allows for flows to be released through the spillway gates.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 1030 hour on Monday, September 2, 2008:
Decrease average daily turbine release to ≈ 2,805 cfs (≈ 1,850 MW-Hrs/day using 36.4 cfs/mw).

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1030 hour on Monday, September 2, 2008:
Decrease diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 375 cfs (gage height = 74.00 with -0.37 shift).
Maintain river release at 2,500 cfs (increase gage height to 61.10 & apply new shift of -1.10).
Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 2,875 cfs.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle