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

October 28, 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. 09-04**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3639.45; Storage: 1,063,148 acre-feet; River Release: 2,500 cfs; Inflow: 2,170 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Algae growth in the Bighorn River continues to break up and decrease. Power generation indicates actual river flows are higher than anticipated. To adjust for the variation in flows, 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 1700 hour on Tuesday, October 28, 2008:
Maintain average daily turbine release at ≈ 2,430 cfs (≈ 1,780 MW-Hrs/day using 32.8 cfs/mw).

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1700 hour on Tuesday, October 28, 2008:
Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 0 cfs (gage height = 69.34 with -0.84 shift).
Maintain river release at 2,500 cfs (decrease gage height to 61.21 & apply new shift of -1.21).
Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 2,500 cfs.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle