



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

MAY 13 2011

The Honorable Rodney P. Frelinghuysen
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy
and Water Development
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On April 15, 2011, Public Law 112-10 was enacted providing appropriations for Fiscal Year 2011. The Act required the submission of operating plans for Department of Energy, Corps of Engineers, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Bureau of Reclamation within 30 days of enactment.

Enclosed, please find the operating plan for the Bureau of Reclamation. This plan is consistent with the direction contained in Public Law 112-10 displaying detail below the account level. For purposes of transparency and to promote communication, our plan provides detail at the program and project level. Also enclosed for your information is an operating plan for the Central Utah Project Completion Act.

Reclamation based its operating plan on the 2011 request levels, as Public Law 112-10 specified funding for Reclamation accounts almost exactly as the FY 2011 President's request. The plan includes a limited number of increases and decreases for certain programs and projects from the FY 2011 President's request. These decisions were made based on a thorough review at the regional, program, and national level to ensure a balanced approach that considered projects and programs on the basis of mission priorities, relevance to strategic goals, program objectives, and new information and requirements since the FY 2011 President's request was submitted. The criteria used in the decision-making included:

- Apply the 0.2 percent Rescission in accordance with the language in P.L. 112-10 (i.e., proportionately to each account, and within each account, to each program, project, and activity);
- Fund the FY 2011 level for programs and projects, adjusted as necessary based upon new information since the FY 2011 request was submitted to ensure current obligations are satisfied;
- Reduce funding for projects based on cost savings identified since the FY 2011 request that will not affect project completion;

- Consider program/project capability to spend during the remainder of FY 2011, continued focus on public safety as well as ongoing operation and maintenance requirements;
- Consider must pay bills and shortfalls from the FY 2011 request, including new court ordered requirements since the 2011 request was submitted, and make progress towards project completion without increasing future budget requirements
- Maintain overall funding levels within program or category where practical and apply normal program specific criteria; and
- Does not fund new starts, earmarks or program resumptions.

If we can be of assistance to you in communicating the content of these plans or providing additional information, please let us know.

A similar letter is being sent to the Honorable Peter J. Visclosky, Ranking Minority Member, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives; the Honorable Dianne Feinstein, Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, Committee on Appropriations, United States Senate; and the Honorable Lamar Alexander, Ranking Minority Member, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, Committee on Appropriations, United States Senate.

Sincerely,



Ken Salazar

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
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MAY 13 2011

The Honorable Peter J. Visclosky
Ranking Minority Member
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Visclosky:

On April 15, 2011, Public Law 112-10 was enacted providing appropriations for Fiscal Year 2011. The Act required the submission of operating plans for Department of Energy, Corps of Engineers, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Bureau of Reclamation within 30 days of enactment.

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Sincerely,



Ken Salazar

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THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
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MAY 13 2011

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Feinstein:

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Ken Salazar

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THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
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MAY 13 2011

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Ranking Minority Member
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Alexander:

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