



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

NOV 14 2016

Brent Rhees
Upper Colorado Regional Office
Bureau of Reclamation
125 South State Street, Room 8100
Salt Lake City, UT 84138

Subject: Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Glen Canyon Dam Long Term
Experimental and Management Plan (CEQ # 20160232)

Dear Mr. Rhees:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the above-referenced document pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

EPA continues to support flow regulation in the Colorado River to protect resource objectives in Grand Canyon National Park as outlined in the Long Term Experimental and Management Plan. EPA reviewed the Draft EIS for this project and provided comments to Reclamation on May 9, 2016. We rated the Preferred Alternative as *Lack of Objections-Adequate (LO-1)*. We had no substantive comments on the Draft EIS.

EPA commends the National Park Service and the Bureau of Reclamation for conducting a rigorous analysis of the proposed actions, and clearly communicating the projected impacts to important resources in the project area. In particular, we note that the National Park Service and the Bureau of Reclamation incorporated the Council on Environmental Quality's *Final Guidance for Federal Departments and Agencies on Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and the Effects of Climate Change in National Environmental Policy Act Reviews*¹, and provided a comprehensive table that utilizes standardized and comparable metrics to quantify the effects of a changing climate on each of the presented alternatives.

EPA appreciates the opportunity to provide input on this critical experimental and management plan and we look forward to continuing to work with you on subsequent EIS's in the project area. If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 947-4161, or contact Stephanie Gordon, the lead reviewer for this project, at (415) 972-3098, or gordon.stephanies@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Connell Dunning".

Connell Dunning, Acting Manager
Environmental Review Section

cc via email: Katrina Grantz, Bureau of Reclamation
Robert Billerbeck, National Park Service

¹ See <https://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/initiatives/nepa/ghg-guidance>