



# ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

for the

## Big Hole River Diversion Dam

in

Silver Bow and Beaverhead Counties, Montana

## APPENDIX A

# LETTER FROM DNRC WATER RESOURCES REGARDING EXISTING POINT OF DIVERSION



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL  
RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION  
HELENA WATER RESOURCES REGIONAL OFFICE



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HELENA, MT 59620-1601

December 4, 2009

DOWL HKM  
Attn: Sarah Nicolai  
104 East Broadway, Suite G-1  
PO box 1009  
Helena MT 59624

Subject: Change Application requirement for Point of Diversion on Big Hole River diversion dam

Dear Sarah:

During several meetings there were a number of discussions concerning the requirement to complete a point of diversion change application on the Big Hole diversion dam reconstruction project. Throughout those discussions it became apparent that the project and the point of diversion were confined to the immediate influence of the current diversion structure.

In addition to the current diversion structure there were discussions that pertained to historical construction activities, maintenance of the facility, and the overall influence of the diversion both immediately upstream and downstream of the facility. This was referred to as the "footprint of influence". It is because of these reasons; historical, maintenance, and influence it has been determine that a change application will not have to be filed to complete this project. It is also apparent as described in the preferred alternative the project is staying well within the "footprint of influence" of the current structure.

If there are any questions concerning this project not requiring the submission of a change application for the point of diversion please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Terry Eccles".

Terry Eccles  
Helena/Bozeman Regional Manager