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MEMORANDUM

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Priority Administration Not Warranted on the North Platte River

Wyoming State Engineer Patrick T. Tyrrell announced today that, in accordance with Wyoming water law and the 2001 Modified North Platte Decree, priority administration is not warranted at this time on water rights diverting from the North Platte River and its tributaries upstream of and junior to Pathfinder Reservoir, priority of December 6, 1904; and between Pathfinder Dam and Guernsey Reservoir, priority of April 20, 1923.

The February storage along with the predicted runoff for the upcoming season has produced a calculated total of 1.256 million acre-feet, which is above the 1.1 million acre-feet "trigger" value which represents a full North Platte Project ownership supply. Snowpack conditions are currently above average with an anticipated inflow into Pathfinder Reservoir of 735,000 acre-feet.

"As Mother Nature continues to send snow, the water supply outlook continues to improve for the upcoming water year for our municipalities and industries," says Patrick T. Tyrrell, Wyoming State Engineer. "The State Engineer's Office will continue to monitor the conditions and will reassess the forecasted supply at the beginning of March."

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