

September 11, 2003

Joel K. Bladow
Regional Manager
Rocky Mountain Region
Western Area Power Administration
5555 East Crossroads Boulevard
Loveland, CO 80538-8986

**RE: Comments from the Mni Sose Intertribal Water Rights Coalition
on the Proposed Rates for Loveland Area Projects Transmission
and Ancillary Services**

Dear Mr. Bladow:

Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Transmission and Ancillary Services Rates scheduled to go into effect January 1, 2004, and remain in effect through December 31, 2008. Six Indian Tribes will receive allocations of power from the Loveland Area Projects beginning on October 1, 2004. Therefore, any rate adjustment will impact the Tribes' costs and benefits for their power allocations. The Mni Sose Intertribal Water Rights Coalition has been assisting the Tribes throughout the allocation process. For this reason, *it is the Mni Sose Intertribal Water Rights Coalition's concern that Western's rates be kept as low as possible*. I appreciate that many of the various transmission and service rates are actually decreasing.

I also applaud Western's new rate for Regulation and Frequency Response Service for Intermittent Renewable Resources. I am pleased that Western supports the installation of renewable sources of energy and recognizes certain operation constraints. The Mni Sose Coalition, however, supports the comments of the American Wind Energy Association and other joining parties that suggest additional changes to Western's rates. Such other suggestions include the elimination of imbalance penalties for intermittent renewables.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the LAP transmission and ancillary services rates. Please contact me at (605) 343-6054 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Woody Corbine
Executive Director