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## **COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION OF NEVADA**

### **NEWS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release:*

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### **COLORADO RIVER BASIN WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS**

**Las Vegas, Nevada** - The last 14 years have been the driest in recorded history of the Colorado River and the last two years are the driest concurrent two year period in the recorded history. Due to this dry hydrology, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) will reduce the annual water delivery from Lake Powell to Lake Mead. This reduction is required by the 2007 Guidelines into which the seven Colorado River Basin States entered with the Federal Government, which are designed to allow the Upper and Lower Basins to better share the benefits and burdens of the highly variable water supply of the Colorado River.

Today, Reclamation issued its monthly hydrology projections, reporting that the annual release from Lake Powell in 2014 will be 7.48 million acre-feet. This is 750,000 acre-feet less than in most years. With this reduction, Lake Mead will drop about 20 feet in 2014, eight feet more than normal. While this reduction will not result in shortage allocations in 2014, if the Colorado River Basin continues to experience extremely dry years, we may see such shortages in the coming years.

“The Colorado River is Southern Nevada’s lifeline. The Commission recognizes that the severity of this drought requires a renewed commitment to find creative and collaborative solutions,” said George Ogilvie, Chairman of the Colorado River Commission of Nevada. “The Commission is continuing to work proactively with the other six Colorado River Basin States to find water supply solutions for the entire region.”

The Colorado River Commission of Nevada is a State authorized agency responsible for securing and protecting Nevada’s rights and interests in the waters of the Colorado River and in electric power generated by the river. Lake Mead supplies about 90 percent of Southern Nevada’s water supply.

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