MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Implementation Guidance for Section 1045 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA 2014)

1. Section 1045 of WRRDA 2014 provides that the Secretary, in coordination with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), will initiate an assessment of the effects of drought conditions on lakes managed by the Secretary that are affected by FERC-licensed projects, including assessing lake levels and rule curves in areas of previous, current, and prolonged drought and the effect that long-term FERC licenses have on the ability of the Secretary to manage lakes for hydropower generation, navigation, flood protection, water supply, fish and wildlife, and recreation. It provides that the Secretary, in coordination with FERC, will submit a report on the assessment to Congress and make that report publicly available. Section 1045 of WRRDA 2014 is enclosed.

2. Funding for this assessment may be considered during the annual budget process. However, no work on the assessment may be undertaken until funds are appropriated for such work.

3. Point of contact on this subject is Mr. Kamau Sadiki, 202-761-4889 or Kamau.B.Sadiki@usace.army.mil.

Encl

JAMES C. DALTON, P.E., SES
Chief, Engineering and Construction
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SECTION 1045 OF WRRDA 2014 - REPORT ON SURFACE ELEVATIONS AT DROUGHT AFFECTED LAKES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in coordination with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (referred to in this section as "FERC"), shall initiate an assessment of the effects of drought conditions on lakes managed by the Secretary that are affected by FERC-licensed reservoirs, which shall include an assessment of—

(1) lake levels and rule curves in areas of previous, current, and prolonged drought; and

(2) the effect the long-term FERC licenses have on the ability of the Secretary to manage lakes for hydropower generation, navigation, flood protection, water supply, fish and wildlife, and recreation.

(b) REPORT.—The Secretary, in coordination with the FERC, shall submit to Congress and make publicly available a report on the assessment carried out under subsection (a).

[insert office]