

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114 *[or Fresno or Redding
addresses*

PUBLIC HEARING

concerning

RESOLUTION

AMENDING WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2008-0021

FOR

**MERIDIAN BEARTRACK COMPANY
MERIDIAN GOLD COMPANY
AND FELIX MINING COMPANY
ROYAL MOUNTAIN KING MINE
CALAVERAS COUNTY**

The Royal Mountain King is an inactive gold mine near Copperopolis in Calaveras County. The mine ceased active operations in June 1994. Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. R5-2008-0021 were adopted on 25 January 2008 requiring the completion of investigations and plans by specified dates to close the various mine waste disposal units. Subsequent to adoption of the WDRs, the Flotation Tailings Disposal Area (FTR) developed a leachate leak. Responding to this unanticipated leak will require additional investigations and the Discharger requested a revision of the date for a revised FTR closure plan from 1 September 2008 to 1 May 2009. This Resolution makes that change.

A public hearing concerning this matter will be held during the Regional Board meeting which is scheduled for:

DATE: 4/5 December 2008
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region
11020 Sun Center Drive #200
Rancho Cordova, CA

The designated parties for this hearing are as follows:

- Staff of Central Valley Regional Board
- Discharger

Only designated parties will have these rights: to call and examine witnesses; to introduce exhibits; to cross-examine opposing witnesses; to impeach any witness; and to rebut the evidence against him or her. All other persons wishing to testify or provide comments are interested persons and not designated parties. Such interested persons may request status as a designated party for purposes of this hearing by submitting

such request in writing to the Board no later than **17 November 2008**. The request must explain the basis for status as a designated party and in particular how the person is directly affected by the discharge.

The tentative amendment to Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2008-0021 was issued on 17 September 2008. Persons wishing to comment on this noticed hearing item shall submit testimony, evidence, if any, and/or comments in writing to the Regional Board no later than by noon on **3 November 2008**. Written evidence or comments submitted after noon on 3 November 2008 will not be accepted and will not be incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice any party.

All designated parties and interested persons may speak at the Regional Board meeting, and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. Oral testimony and cross examination will be limited in time by the Board Chair

Anyone having questions on this resolution to change the submittal date for a revised closure of the FTR should contact **Ross Atkinson, (916) 464-4614**. Interested parties may download the proposed Order and related documents from the Regional Board's Internet website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/. Copies of these documents can also be obtained by contacting or visiting the Regional Board's office at 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114 weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The procedures governing Regional Water Board meetings may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 647 et seq. and are available upon request. Hearings before the Regional Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq. The procedures may be obtained by accessing http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_laws/. Information on meeting and hearing procedures is also available on the Regional Board's website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/mtgprocd.shtml or by contacting any one of the Board's offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839.

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
MERIDIAN BEARTRACK COMPANY
MERIDIAN GOLD COMPANY
FELIX MINING COMPANY
ROYAL MOUNTAIN KING MINE
CALAVERAS, COUNTY

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Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

Jack Del Conte, Assistant Executive Officer

16 September 2008

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