

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION**

TENTATIVE ORDER R5-2026-XXXX

**RESCISSION OF CEASE AND DESIST ORDER R5-2010-0053 AND TIME
SCHEDULE ORDER R5-2011-0908**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board), finds as follows:

a. FRENCH GULCH (NEVADA) MINING CORPORATION AND U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, WASHINGTON MINE, SHASTA COUNTY, CEASE AND DESIST ORDER R5-2010-0053

French Gulch (Nevada) Mining Corporation and U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (collectively, Discharger) operate the Washington Mine (Facility) in Shasta County. Cease and Desist Order (CDO) R5-2010-0053, adopted on 27 May 2010, established a compliance schedule for the Discharger to meet effluent limitations specified in Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order R5-2010-0052, NPDES No. CA0085294. These requirements applied to discharges from the Washington Mine adits, specifically addressing point source discharges from the Robillard, I-Level, Government, and O'Neal adits.

The Order required the Discharger to implement source controls, seal adits, or construct conveyance and treatment systems by 17 March 2015. It also set interim effluent limitations for metals and water quality parameters at each adit.

On 13 March 2015, the Discharger submitted a Completion Report confirming that discharges from the O'Neal, Robillard, and I-Level adits were routed to the Main Decline and treated at the onsite water treatment plant (WTP). The Government Adit has not discharged since 2012 and was never connected to the WTP. The Discharger has fulfilled all requirements of the CDO. Therefore, Order R5-2010-0053 is no longer necessary.

In 2016, WDRs Order R5-2016-0091 (NPDES No. CA0085294) was adopted to replace Order R5-2010-0052. At that time, the requirements of the CDO were satisfied; however, the CDO was not formally rescinded. Accordingly, the Central Valley Water Board is rescinding the CDO to ensure the record is accurate and complete.

b. FRENCH GULCH (NEVADA) MINING CORPORATION AND U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, WASHINGTON MINE, SHASTA COUNTY, TIME SCHEDULE ORDER R5-2011-0908

French Gulch (Nevada) Mining Corporation and U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (collectively, Discharger) operate the Washington Mine (Facility) in Shasta County. Time Schedule Order (TSO) R5-2011-0908, adopted on

21 December 2011, established a compliance schedule for the Discharger to meet effluent limitations specified in Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2010-0052, NPDES No. CA0085294. At the time Cease and Desist Order (CDO) R5-2010-0053 was issued, records from the Central Valley Water Board did not indicate that discharges from the O'Neal Adit would fail to meet final effluent limits for total cadmium. Because total cadmium was not addressed in CDO R5-2010-0053, TSO R5-2011-0908 provided interim limits for total cadmium at the O'Neal Adit and included a compliance schedule identical to that in CDO R5-2010-0052.

The O'Neal Adit was subsequently connected to the onsite water treatment plant (WTP) for treatment prior to discharge. Based on the 13 March 2015 Completion Report and follow-up inspections by the Central Valley Water Board, the Facility has ceased discharges subject to this Order and implemented measures to prevent future discharge. Therefore, rescission of Order R5-2011-0908 is appropriate.

In 2016, WDRs Order R5-2016-0091 (NPDES No. CA0085294) was adopted to replace Order R5-2010-0052. At that time, the requirements of the TSO were satisfied; however, the TSO was not formally rescinded. Accordingly, the Central Valley Water Board is rescinding the TSO to ensure the record is accurate and complete.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the above Orders are rescinded on <Day Month Year>

I, PATRICK PULUPA, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region on <Day Month Year>.

PATRICK PULUPA, Executive Officer