

CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
14/15 OCTOBER 2021 BOARD MEETING

**RESPONSE TO MERIDIAN BEARTRACK CO. COMMENTS ON THE TENTATIVE
ORDER AMENDING WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS**

ORDER R5-2016-0055

FOR ROYAL MOUNTAIN KING MINE, CALAVERAS COUNTY

The following are Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff responses to comments submitted by interested parties regarding the tentative order amending Waste Discharge Requirements R5-2016-0055 for the Meridian Beartrack Co. and Meridian Gold Co. (Meridian) Royal Mountain King Mine in Calaveras County. The tentative Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) Order was issued for a 30-day public comment period on **30 July 2021** with comments due by **30 August 2021**.

The only comments Central Valley Water Board received were from Meridian submitted as an attachment to the 12 August 2021 e-mail message. The submitted comments were accepted into the record, and are summarized below, followed by Central Valley Water Board staff responses.

Meridian Comment: Finding 2. and Info Sheet

Change 'The associated Monitoring and Reporting Program R5-2016-0055-01 was revised on 23 February 2021' to '...as revised...'

Response: Comment Accepted. We modified the sentence as follows:

The associated Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) R5-2016-0055 was revised to R5-2016-0055-01 on 23 February 2021.

Meridian Comment: Finding 10.

Change "ferrous permanganate" needs to "ferrous sulfate"

Response: Comment Accepted. Finding 10 text has been changed.

Meridian Comment: Finding 11.

Change 'Final closure of PWP' to 'Final closure of PWP and PWP Evaporation Pond'

Response: Comment accepted. We changed the Finding 11 as proposed. Also, to provide consistency with the rest of the document, we numbered the list in Finding 11 (a.-c.).

Meridian Comment: Attachment A, Finding 9.:

Change 'R5-2016-0055' to 'R5-2016-0055-01'.

Response: Comment Accepted. Attachment A, Finding 9. was changed. The MRP number was also changed throughout the Attachment A.

A list item was added to the HEREBY ORDERED list:

5. Change the MRP number throughout to R5-2016-0055-01.

Meridian proposed water quality data and other updates to the rest of the R5-2016-0055.

Response: Comments Rejected. The proposed changes to R5-2016-0055 are beyond the scope of this amendment to change of Complexity rating for the site, therefore no other changes were made.