

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
8/9 December 2022 Board Meeting

Response to Comments
for the
Meridian Beartrack Co
Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements

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 Waste Discharge Requirements, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit CA0085243 renewal for the Meridian Beartrack Co (Discharger) Royal Mountain King Mine (Facility).

The tentative NPDES Permit was issued for a 30-day public comment period on 3 October 2022 with comments due by 3 November 2022. The Central Valley Water Board received one comment regarding the tentative Permit by the due date from the Discharger.

The submitted comment was accepted into the record, and is summarized below, followed by Central Valley Water Board staff response.

DISCHARGER COMMENTS

1. In Attachment E, Section IX.A.1, of the Tentative NPDES Permit (Effluent and Receiving Water Characterization) the testing period for the priority pollutants is once during the permit term between 1 November 2024 and 31 October 2025. This is a somewhat limited window and given the relatively rare occurrence of discharge events, compliance with this requirement could be problematic. The Discharger requests increasing the testing window (from the beginning of the permit to 31 December 2026) or granting a variance to accommodate such cases where the only discharge occurs outside the stated testing window.

RESPONSE: Central Valley Water Board staff concur and have revised the proposed Order accordingly.