

## INFORMATION SHEET

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER R5-2012-XXXX  
CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES CORPORATION,  
MAURICE ALTSHULER AND BARTLETT BURNAP,  
MINING, PROCESSING, AND RECLAMATION  
FRENCH CORRAL MINE  
NEVADA COUNTY

California Natural Resources Corporation (facility owner and operator) and Maurice Altshuler and Bartlett Burnap (landowners), collectively referred to as “Discharger”, own and operate the French Corral Mine (the “Facility”) in Nevada County. On 15 March 2012, the Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) for the Facility. The information in the ROWD has been used to develop these waste discharge requirements (WDRs). The ROWD and supporting documents contain information related to construction, operations, and closure of the Facility.

The facility is on a 65-acre property at 21235 Pleasant Valley Road. The French Corral Mine is a surface placer gold mine. Surface mining operations were conducted at this facility during the 1980s under prior waste discharge requirements. Since 1993, the facility has been idle. The proposed mining operation includes excavation of the undisturbed tertiary gravels and existing placer tailings by mobile mining equipment and transportation to the processing plant by truck or conveyor. Processing of the gold bearing material is performed by conventional washing, scrubbing, and gravity separation using water and screening. Gold is removed by a physical separation process. No use of chemicals such as cyanide or mercury is proposed.

The proposed mining rate is approximately 155,000 cubic yards per year through 2016. Process water will be retained in unlined settling ponds. No discharge of process water off-site is proposed. Reclamation will generally be performed concurrently with mining. The mining waste has been classified as Group C as defined by California Code of

ORDER NO. R5-2012-XXXX

CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES CORPORATION

MAURICE ALTSHULER AND BARTLETT BURNAP

MINING, PROCESSING, AND RECLAMATION

FRENCH CORRAL MINE

NEVADA COUNTY

Regulations, title 27 ("Title 27"), § 22480. Regulations set forth in Title 27 which establishes prescriptive standards for construction of Mining Units and containment are not applicable for Group C mining wastes. Group C mining wastes are wastes from which any discharge would be in compliance with the applicable water quality control plan, including water quality objectives other than turbidity

Low density residential and agricultural properties are located in the facility vicinity. On-site facilities include: the tailings placement area (Mining Unit-1), Phase 1C mining area (Mining Unit-2), area between the Phase 1C mining area and the Phase 1A and 1B mining area (Mining Unit-3), and the Phase 1A and 1B mining area (Mining Unit-4).

The existing groundwater monitoring network for the facility consists of 1 upgradient background monitoring well and two downgradient monitoring wells. Results of groundwater sampling and analysis performed as part of the Characterization Report did not identify significant water quality concerns. Results of surface water sampling and analysis performed as part of the Characterization Report did not identify significant water quality concerns for surface water in Matthews Pond. Storm water runoff from the facility is routed to detention basins. Local surface drainage is to French Corral Creek which is a seasonal tributary to the South Fork of the Yuba River.

JSH