

0510 0005

Information Circular 9035

Principal Deposits of Strategic and Critical Minerals in Nevada

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Donald Paul Hodel, Secretary

BUREAU OF MINES
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0510 0005

7

ITEM 68

BELL MOUNTAIN—GOLD

Alternate names: None

Commodities: Au, Ag

LOCATION-OWNERSHIP

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| County | Churchill. | General location | About 60 km southeast of Fallon. |
| Mining district | Fairview. | Meridian | Mount Diablo. |
| Elevation | 1,810 m. | Tract | Sec. 10, T 15 N, R 34 E. |
| Topography | Hilly. | Latitude | 39°10'45" N. |
| Domain | Private. | Longitude | 118°07'59" W. |
| Owner | Nevada Silver, Inc. (subsidiary of American Pyramid Resources, Inc., Vancouver, BC, Canada), 100% (1982). | | |
| Owner-operator | Southern Pacific Land Co. (if option agreement met in 1984, will own 66.6% of the property and will become the operator) (1984). | | |

GEOLOGY

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| Type of ore body | Vein; brecciated, sheared. |
| Origin | Hydrothermal. |
| Shape of ore body | Tabular. |
| Ore controls | Fracturing; faulting. |
| Strike and dip of mineralized zone | N 90° W: 45° S (Main Vein). |
| Mineralized zone average dimensions, m: | |
| Length | >1,600 (reserves developed on 300 m). |
| Width | >115 (downdip). |
| Thickness | 10 to 18. |
| Mineral names | Possible electrum and argentite, native silver, cerargyrite, possible acanthite, yellow-gray chlorides, manganeseiferous calcite, ocherous limonite, quartz, adularia, barite, fluorspar, rhodochrosite, montmorillonite. |

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| Host formation | Undifferentiated volcanics. |
| Geologic age | Tertiary (Miocene). |
| Rock relationships | Rhyolite pyroclastics, encloses ore (vein). |
| | Tuff, air fall, encloses ore (vein). |
| Alteration | Basalt dikes, near ore. |
| | Calcite-quartz vein, contains ore. |
| | Broad silicification, chloritization, and argillization with seritization close to walls of vein; oxidation. |
| Size | Small. |

DEVELOPMENT

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| Current status | Active-development; exploration. |
| Type of operation | Surface. |
| Mining method | Open-pit; on 5-m benches. |
| Year of discovery | Unavailable. |
| Discovery method | Unavailable. |
| Initial production | 1927. |
| Past production | 35 t ore; 17 g/t (0.5 tr oz/ton) Au; 562 g/t (16.4 tr oz/ton) Ag. |
| Annual production rate | Anticipate 1.43 t Au; 37.5 t Ag (recovery from proven reserves). |

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| Distance to water supply | 12 km pipeline from well at Stingaree Flat. |
| Road requirement | 12 km to U.S. Highway 50. |
| Distance to power supply | On-site caterpillar diesels. |
| Mill location | On-site. |
| Mill status | Development. |
| Milling method | Tank cyanidation (CCD); zinc precipitation, smelting. |
| Process rate | 650 t/d (1982 preliminary). |
| Product type | Dore bullion (Ag-Au 30:1). |

PUBLISHED RESERVES-RESOURCES

| Class | Quantity | Grade | Year | Reference |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|------|-----------|
| 1..Proven | 1,000,000 t | 1.5 g/t Au; 50 g/t Ag (Main Vein) | 1982 | 40 |
| 2..Not reported in reference | 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 t. | 4.2 g/t Au; 100 g/t Ag (Zphinz Zone); grade based on assay of first crosscut. | 1982 | 71 |
| 3..Proven | 1,000,000 tons | 0.055 tr oz/ton Au; 1.4 tr oz/ton Ag | 1984 | 208 |
| Probable | 1,000,000 tons | 0.022 tr oz/ton Au; 1.0 tr oz/ton Ag | 1984 | 208 |
| Possible | 500,000 tons | 0.14 tr oz/ton Au; 3.3 tr oz/ton Ag (Zphinz Zone) | 1984 | 208 |

REFERENCES

40, 71, 84, 208, 224, 802.

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| USGS quad maps | Reno, 1:250,000. |
| | Bell Canyon, 7.5'. |
| USBM sequence number | 0320010050. |
| Mid number | 2601775. |

Comments: Sulfides and sulfosalts have been completely leached from the vein. Original ore minerals were electrum and argentite. Zphinz Zone was discovered as a cross structure of Main Vein in about 1982. Large reserves of low-grade 'ore' reported as extensions of Main Vein. Recent discovery of ore in the Zphinz Zone could alter original development plans.