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RE: Dating of porphyry dike at Stonehouse

Dear Hal:

In 1988 we did some mapping and drilling on Freeport's Stonehouse property as part of a JV agreement. This property comprises the west half of section 12, T34N, R42E and is marked by the prominent Lone Tree Hill just west of the Stonehouse interchange of I-80 near Valmy in Humboldt County.

The rocks are Valmy quartzites and biotitic siltstones, cut by a series of crackle and intrusive breccias and a few porphyry dikes. The siliceous intrusive breccias, shown on the attached 1:6000 reconnaissance map, are relatively early and partially controlled by still poorly defined faulting. Narrow sulfide (limonite) matrix breccia dikes carry the best gold values and were followed by the old workings. Late clastic breccias – poorly developed pebble breccias, and altered porphyries are postmineral and occupy the same structures. A large volume of rock contains disseminated and veinlet pyrite, locally reaching 10 to 15%, with locally visible molybdenite (> 200ppm Mo), As, Sb and Hg are very anomalous, but unfortunately Au grades are very spotty and mostly very low.

This is clearly somewhere on top of some kind of a porphyry Mo-Cu system and is in close proximity to the Marigold deposits and the Battle Mt. District. More ore bodies are going to be found around here before the district is done, but it was too expensive a proposition on too small a piece of ground for us. However, I would love to understand better whether this is another 38my system or closer in age to Buckingham. The accompanying sample could help with the answer. It is from the dike

occupying the NW-trending fracture set at the SE corner of the hill, at the junction of E-W and N-S trending breccias. Unlike most dikes on the hill, it has quite fresh biotite and hornblende which look datable in hand specimen. If your USGS colleagues could do the dating, I would be very pleased to join you in a very brief publication of the results.

With best regards,

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