1030 0029

(3) Item 29

NW-33-4
Ag, Pb, Au, U, W

Mining District: CHALK MOUNTAIN
(Silver, Lead, Gold, Uranium, Tungsten)

T. 17 N., R. 34 E.
Churchill County, Nevada
AMS Reno Map Sheet 1971

GENERAL BACKGROUND

Indicated mineral area NW-33-4 encompasses Chalk Mountain, a tract of land about 3 miles long, 2 miles wide, and trending north-south. The area is located 2 miles north of U. S. Highway 50 and one mile east of the Dixie Valley road, approximately 45 miles east-southeast of Fallon.

The area was first prospected in the early Comstock days, but development of the ore deposits did not begin until 1923. Most of the production figures are incomplete, and much of the Chalk Mountain production has been assigned to the Fairview district, whose figures for lead production rose sharply as of 1923. The Fairview district lies about 8 miles south of Chalk Mountain.

Production of shipping ore prior to World War II amounted to several hundred thousand dollars in silver, lead and gold, almost all of which was produced by the Chalk Mountain Silver Lead Mines Company, the initiator of ore development in the district.

Anomalous radioactivity is present on the 375 foot level of the Chalk Mountain Mine.

GEOLOGICAL AND TECHNICAL DATA

The oldest rocks in the area are carbonate rocks of Triassic age. These whitish-gray limestones and dolomites are highly folded.

Jurassic-Triassic volcanics of mixed composition have been thrust over the carbonates along the southern margin of Chalk Mountain. A thrust fault is visible at the southern tip of the mountain and trends northwest, marking the contact between the volcanics and the carbonates.

Massive quartz porphyry of Tertiary-Jurassic age has intruded the carbonates on the western edge of the northern potion of the mountain, as well as in a part of the southwestern portion. Skarn zones occur along the contact between the granodiorite and the carbonates.

Ore bodies of silver and lead occur in bedding planes and fissures in the limestone and dolomite along the eastern and western bases of

Hoke, 1975

Chalk Mountain. The ore minerals are cerrussite, cerargyrite, anglesite, wulfenite, vanadinite, and argentiferous galena in a porous gangue consisting of calcite, altered limestone, quartz and iron oxides. The ore bodies are highly irregular because the ore has been localized in favorable beds which have been highly folded.

The anomalous radioactivity is associated with a gouge zone in dolomitized limestone. Ore sample assayed 0.05 cU_3O_8 (2).

POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT

The irregularity of the ore bodies caused by the folding of the carbonate rocks makes the discovery of new ore bodies possible. However, the cost of finding additional deposits may exceed the value of the ore.

Little mining has occurred on the western side of the Chalk Mountain, although the deposits are essentially the same as those on the east side. Intensive exploration could disclose commercial mineralization.

Vanderberg reports the dump of the Chalk Mountain Mine consists of milling grade ore.

No tungsten has been produced from the district to date. The geology is such, however, that economic mineralization could exist which have not yet been discovered.

The uranium mineralization does not approach ore grade.

COMPANIES AND CLAIMANTS ACTIVE IN AREA

1. BIG BEN Group
   Elizabeth Matthews
   Box 416
   Beatty, Nevada 89003
   (lode claims)

2. JBJ #1
   JBJ Mines, Inc.
   J. L. Green, Pres.
   P. O. Box 634
   Reno, Nevada
   (lode claim)

3. CM Group
   J. R. Simplot Company
   P. O. Box 2777
   Boise, Idaho 83701
   (lode claims)
   January, 1974

4. THE DIRTY SHIRT
   Ralph F. Smith
   29 Thurston Way
   Yerington, Nevada 89447
   (lode claim)

5. SILVER Group
   S. B. and Bob Trease
   225 Drumm Lane
   Fallon, Nevada 89406
   (lode claims)

HOKE, 1975

SELECTED REFERENCES

1. Vanderburg, 1940, Reconnaissance of mining districts in Churchill County, Nevada.

2. Willden and Speed, 1974, Geology and mineral deposits of Churchill County, Nevada.

FIELD EXAMINATION

Hoke, November 1974

Hoke, 1975