USBM, unpublished rept. White Pine Co., Cherry Creek Sec. 24, 25, T24N, R62E Owned by Joseph Nelson, Kenneth C. Laghorn

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ITEM 55

The Cherry Creek property consisting of 2 patented and 6 unpatented lode claims are situated about 3 miles north of the small settlement of Cherry Creek on the east slope of the Cherry Creek Mountains. A loading ramp on the Nevada Northern Railroad is 5 miles southeast. Ely, the supply base, is 58 miles south.

Rocks in the area consist of blue and gray beds of limestone that strike north and dip 50°W. in contact with shales on the westand quartzite on the east, that trend N.50°E. These formations have been broken by a major normal fault and numerous minor faults and intruded by a dike of rhyolite and 1 of dacite.

The tungsten ore bodies occurred as vein and replacement deposits in the sedimentary rocks. The mined ore sections were localized in a wedge of fractured limestone that is bounded on the northeast by a major fault zone and on the west by the Ticup vein. The Ticup vein occupies the sheared contact between a unit of black limestone and a unit of shale. The ore bodies mined were lenses or irregular breccia pipes that are controlled in part by cross-fractures. The ore is brecciated and in part silicified limestone that has been coarsely crystalline white calcite, quartz and scheelite. From these sections the scheelite content varied from 0.3 to 2.0 percent WO_3.

Scheelite, associated with quartz but not with calcite, occurs in lenses that are scattered through the Tiaup vein and other silicified fault zones. These lenses contained a few tons to several hundred tons, and varied in WO_3 content from 1 to 2 percent.

Development workings on the property consisted of a glory hole, a short adit, and 2 shafts 90 and 100 feet deep, from which drifts and cross-cuts have been driven. Ore extraction in the glory hole area was carried to a depth of 250 feet.

The old Tiaup shaft was sunk 1,000 feet at an inclination of 40 degrees on a limestone-shale contact with levels at approximate 50 foot intervals.

FIGURE 7 - Geologic and Topographic Map, Cherry Creek Tungsten Deposits, White Pine County, Nevada.

Stull stoping was used to mine the narrow ore sections, and the wider and more steeply dipping sections were mined by square-setting.

The mill, which contained gravity and flotation sections, operated intermittently depending on the availability of ore had a rated capacity of 40 tons per day. From the gravity section a high grade concentrate 70 percent plus WO_3, was produced that was practically free of impurities. The float concentrate 25 to 30 percent was retabled to produce a marketable product.

The ore reserves were practically depleted at the time of the shut-down 1956.