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ITEM 21

TONOPAH DIVIDE—GOLD

Alternate names: Old Big Divide, Gold Hill, Gold Mountain, Divide

Commodities: Au, Ag

LOCATION-OWNERSHIP

County	Esmeralda.
Mining district	Divide.
Elevation	1,890 m.
Topography	Hilly, mountainous.
Domain	Unknown.
General location	About 10 km south of Tonopah.
Meridian	Mount Diablo.
Tract	Sec. 26, T 2 N, R 42 E.
Latitude	37°59'42" N.
Longitude	117°14'17" W.
Owner	Tonopah Divide Mining Co., Reno, NV (1984).
Operator	Ebco Enterprises, Tonopah, NV (Parent company is Falcon Explorations Co., Emeryville, CA. A lease-option agreement on the property has been held since 1980.) (1984)

GEOLOGY

Type of ore body	Vein, disseminated in stockwork.
Origin	Hydrothermal.
Shape of ore body	Tabular.
Ore controls	Faults, fractures (shear zone).
Strike and dip of mineralized zone.	N 40° W: nearly vertical (main lode).
Age of mineralization	Miocene (16 to 17 million yr).
Mineralized zone average dimensions (size as determined by assay walls) (*361*), m:	
Length	150.
Width	135.
Thickness	6.5.
Depth	0.
Mineral names	Cerargyrite, "sooty" argentite, molybdenite, powellite, ferrimolydite, sphalerite, chalcopyrite, argentiferous galena, possible tetrahedrite, limonite, sericite, pyrite, adularia, quartz, kaolinite.
Host formations	Volcanics—Fraction Breccia (principal host). Siebert—Oddie Rhyolite.
Geologic age	Tertiary.
Rock relationships	Rhyolitic volcanics, fractures contain ore, gangue. Rhyolitic breccia, fractures contain ore, gangue.
Alteration	Minor silicification, sericitic, chloritic, oxidation, pyritization; potassic, and propylitic zoned around fault zone.
Size	Small.

DEVELOPMENT

Current status	Active-producer.
Type of operation	Surface.
Mining method	Open pit; 1981-82 production rate was about 900 t/d ore.
Year of discovery	1902, Au; 1917, Ag (district).
Initial production	About 1912; 1981 by Falcon Exploration Co.
Last production	Closed in July 1982; reported active in 1983-84. Open pit expected to be mined out by end of 1984.
Past production	District total; 101,866 kg (3,275,079 tr oz) Ag; 1,010 kg (32,474 tr oz) Au. Most production from 1920-29 and from Tonopah Divide Mine (*209*).
Distance to water supply	On-site, 154-m well (mill).
Road requirement	Existing.
Distance to power supply	Unknown.
Mill location	10 km southwest of mine in Alkali Flat.
Mill status	Active.
Milling method	Cyanide heap leach, zinc precipitation (Ag), carbon precipitation (Au).
Process rate	907 t/d (1,000 ton/d) (1981); rated crusher capacity of 181 t/h (200 ton/h).

PUBLISHED RESERVES-RESOURCES

No published reserve-resource information.[1]

REFERENCES

7, 8, 62, 63, 64, 65, 209, 211, 361, 377, 629, 703.

USGS quad maps	Goldfield, 1:250,000. Mud Lake, 15'.
USBM sequence number	0320090087.
USGS MRDS number	M030063.
Mid number	2601527.

Comments: Original mine life planned in 1981 was 5 yr. The mine plan was to initially mine and truck 70,000 t of mine dumps to the millsite at the approximate rate of 907 t/d. After completion of mining the dumps, mining would commence on the main open pit that contains approximately 1.45 million t ore. Each heap pad contains approximately 360,000 t ore.

[1]Falcon Exploration 1981 operations plans were to initially mine about 1.5 million t of combined dump material and lode material. Garside and Tingley's field examination report of March 26, 1982 (*211*), states that the average grade is 8.6 g/t (0.25 tr oz/ton) Ag and about 2.7 g/t (0.08 tr oz/ton) Au.

Information Circular 9035

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