

1580 0021

327

134

ITEM 96

**McGILL TAILINGS--COPPER**

Alternate names: Keystone Dumps

Commodities: Cu

**LOCATION-OWNERSHIP**

County .....	White Pine.	General location .....	About 19 km northeast of Ely.
Mining district .....	Robinson Canyon.	Meridian .....	Mount Diablo.
Elevation .....	1,865 m.	Tract .....	Sec. 29, T 18 N, R 64 E.
Topography .....	Gentle.	Latitude .....	39°23'55" N.
Domain .....	Private.	Longitude .....	114°47'44" W.
Owner .....	Kennecott Copper Corp., Salt Lake City, UT (1984).		

**GEOLOGY**

Type of ore body .....	Mill waste, tailings.	Identified resources .....	Medium.
------------------------	-----------------------	----------------------------	---------

**DEVELOPMENT**

Current status .....	Inactive-explored.	Distance to water supply ...	On-site.
Mining method .....	Surface.	Road requirement .....	None.

**PUBLISHED RESERVES-RESOURCES**

Class	Quantity	Grade	Year	Reference
1..Not reported in reference .....	40,000,000 to 80,000,000	0.3 to 0.4% Cu .....	1979	413

**REFERENCES**

160, 284, 413, 473, 477.	USGS quad maps .....	Ely, 1:250,000.
		McGill, 15'.
	USBM sequence number .....	0320330056.

Comments: The tailings deposit at McGill represents a 70-yr accumulation of tailings from the adjacent concentrator. Over the years the "natural classification of the coarse and heavy particles resulted in a deposit of minable grade copper-bearing material suitable for concentrating and smelting" (473). In 1978-79, Kennecott conducted exploration and feasibility studies on the deposit. In the fall of 1979, Kennecott announced that recovery of copper from about 800 ha (2,000 acres) awaited only a corporate go-ahead. It was stated that an investment of \$15 million would be required and would "pay for itself in less than a year" (160). The plan was to use conveyors to transport 9.5 million t (10.5 million tons) annually back to the mill and smelter facilities for reprocessing. Recycling of the 0.5% Cu tailings would take between 8 and 10 yr (160).

**Information Circular 9035**

# **Principal Deposits of Strategic and Critical Minerals in Nevada**

**By N. T. Lowe, Russell G. Raney, and John R. Norberg**



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**  
**Donald Paul Hodel, Secretary**

**BUREAU OF MINES**  
**Robert C. Horton, Director**