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ENGINEERS - CONSULTANTS
LOS ALTOS - CALIFORNIA

INCORPORATED

BY: CCM

W.O.:

885.1

MINERAL:

Tungsten

DATE: 8/12/64

MINERAL DEPOSIT ALONG WESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD

PORTOLA TO WINNEMUCCA

PROPERTY NAME:

Stormy Day Tungsten Mine



LOCATION: Pershing County, Nev.

1/4 OF 1/4 OF SEC 29 TWP 30N RGE 24E

DISTRICT: Hooker

MILEPOST:

POTENTIAL:

☐ LARGE☐ IMMEDIATE☐ MEDIUM☐ NEAR FUTURE☒ SMALL☒ DISTANT FUTURE☐ UNKNOWN

DESCRIPTION: Discovered 1941; operated 1942 thru early 1944 & 1951-1955. Scheelite-bearing tactite zone striking N-S between granodiorite on east and thin-bedded, shaly limestone with intercolated thicker bedded, purer limestone members. Sedimentary rocks strike N-S; dip 50°-70° W. Tactite, locally with schellite, is generally a coarse-grained aggregate of garnet, epidote, pyroxene, quartz (over)

RESERVES: Production: 20,000 tons of ore; grade of ore not given. Reserves unknown. Probable that richest ore near surface is already mined. Mine shut down when Federal Government terminated its purchase program in October 1956.

ACCESS: 18 miles by road north to Gerlach, Nevada and Western Pacific Railroad

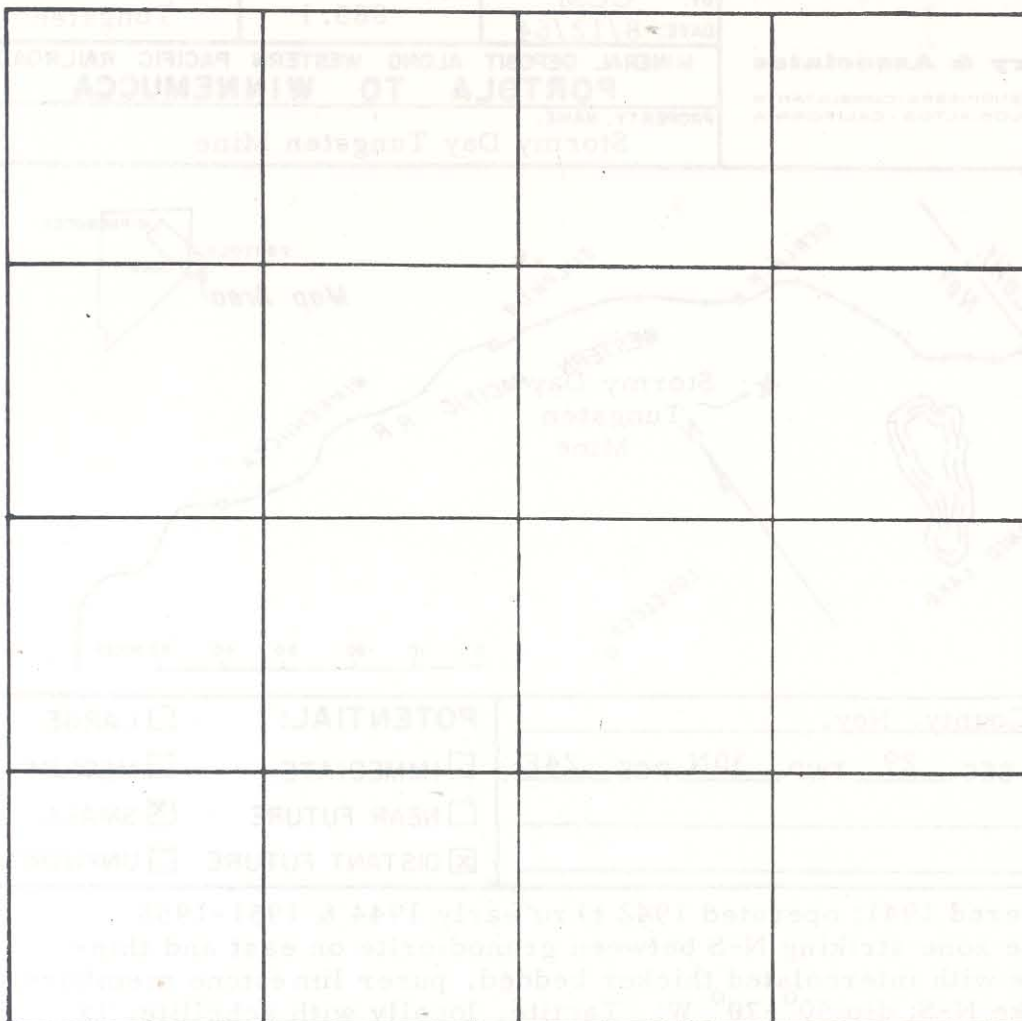
OWNERSHIP: Robert N. Avery, 333 N. Bayshore Blvd., San Mateo, California. (also see Mrs. Helen Thrasher, Postmistress, Gerlach, Nev.)

SOURCES OF DATA: US Bur. Mines Inf. Circ. 7854 (1958), interview and county records.

ECONOMICS: Mine may reopen if the price of tungsten should go up. Tungsten has to a considerable extent been replaced in many of its uses by molybdenum, so the price of tungsten may not rise again very soon.

CONCLUSIONS: In 14 years from discovery to last shut down this mine produced only 1500 tons per year, average. It is a very small mine and apparently not a large ore body.

THE WESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY



6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
18	17	16	15	14	13
19	20	21	22	23	24
30	29	28	27	26	25
31	32	33	34	35	36

T _____ R _____

SECTION _____

SCALE: 1" = 1000'

(Description continued) - pyrrhotite, pyrite, molybdenite, and chalcopyrite. Other zones of coarse tactite and fine-grained, pale, calc-silicate hornfels contain little or no scheelite. The scheelite-bearing tactite ore bodies measured as much as 16 feet in thickness; however, most are 4 to 10 feet thick. Ore deeply oxidized to 100 foot depth, appreciably enriching ore from 20 to 50 feet below surface.

TUNGSTEN

Tungsten is a ductile, white metal with a melting point of $3,410^{\circ}\text{C}$. ($6,152^{\circ}\text{F}$.) which is higher than any other metal. It retains much of its tensile strength and elasticity at temperatures up to 500°C . (932°F .) Tungsten steels and carbides are extensively used in machine tools, jet and rocket engines, and other applications where structural strength, extreme hardness, and resistance to wear at elevated temperatures are needed.

Tungsten occurs chiefly as scheelite (CaWO_4) and most tungsten ore bodies are contact deposits developed in lime-rich rocks by granite intrusions. Although tungsten deposits are widely distributed in the world, China has been by far the largest producer (28 percent) and has the largest reserves. The United States has been the second largest producer (13 percent), but until 1951 consumed more than it produced. Nevada and California have been the largest producing states, each having produced about 30 percent of the total for the United States. Quotations for domestic scheelite in mid 1963 were around \$8 and in December 1964 were \$17 to \$19 per short ton unit of WO_3 , in contrast to a Government stockpile price of \$63 in 1951-1956. These much lower prices since 1956 have resulted in the closing of most tungsten mines in the United States except a few that produce ores containing other marketable minerals.

About 28 miles northeast of Winnemucca in the Potosi mining district, from 8 to 15 miles north of the Western Pacific Railroad, scheelite occurs around the margins of a large granodiorite body in silicated limestone that is interbedded with argillite. An estimated five hundred thousand units of WO_3 have been produced from underground workings extending to a depth of over four hundred feet. A unit of WO_3 contains 15.86 pounds of tungsten and weighs 20 pounds.

The area north of this district has a thrust plate (a large slice of rock pushed over some other rocks in mountain making) estimated to be 100 to 700 feet thick overlying the ore-bearing strata. As gold also occurs in the mines of the district, a geochemical survey of the covered area north of the Potosi mining district would seem quite worthwhile.

TUNGSTEN

(Continued)

The Nevada-Massachusetts property, one of the two largest United States producers of tungsten, is about 27 miles southwest of Winnemucca, Nevada, 11 miles south of the Western Pacific Railroad. It has produced one million five hundred thousand units of WO_3 from open pits and from underground workings which extend to a depth of over fourteen hundred feet.

The Golconda mine, 17 miles southeast of Winnemucca, has produced one hundred five thousand units of WO_3 from tungsten-bearing iron and manganese oxides. These oxides were deposited by Pleistocene hot springs as fissure veins and as blankets cementing gravel beds.

