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EXXON FINDS MOLY DEPOSIT NEAR EUREKA, NEVADA

NEW YORK, August 7--Exxon Minerals Company, a division of Exxon Corporation, announced today that exploratory drilling has revealed a substantial molybdenum deposit located approximately 20 miles northwest of Eureka, in central Nevada. Mining and economic feasibility studies will be started and further drilling of the prospect is scheduled.

Exxon Minerals began exploratory drilling on this prospect in the Eureka area in late 1978. Seventeen exploratory core holes have been completed within a square mile area and measurable quantities of molybdenum have been encountered in 15 of the holes at depths ranging from 150 to 3,150 feet. The molybdenum concentrations encountered to date vary, but are similar to those found in other North American molybdenum deposits now being developed or planned for open pit mining. The company cautioned, however, that it is too early to make any definitive estimates of the size or mineability of this discovery.

Four contract rigs are currently being used to do the drilling on the prospect which is located on mining claims on

public lands that Exxon has staked or has leased and optioned from other parties.

Several years of extensive evaluation and study will be required to determine if development of this molybdenum deposit is feasible and economically attractive. Another several years for mine design and construction would be required to bring the property into commercial production.

Molybdenum or "moly" is a hard gray metal that normally appears in nature as molybdenum disulfide. Its primary use is in toughening alloy steels and it is vital to the manufacturing and defense industries.

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