334-0 0005

(285) Item 5

PROPERTY NAME: Lovelock Gypsum

OTHER NAMES:

MINERAL COMMODITY(IES): Gypsum

TYPE OF DEPOSIT: Marine evaporite

ACCESSIBILITY: Road to deposit

OWNERSHIP: U.S. Gypsum Co. and Pacific Coast Building Productions, Inc.

PRODUCTION: None or very small.

HISTORY: On patented claims (U.S.G.Co.) and private land (P, C, B, P, I)

County: Pershing

Mining District: Muttleberry

AMS Sheet: Lovelock

Quad Sheet: Lovelock 15'

Sec. 27, T 27N, R 32E

Coordinate (UTM):

North 4 4 4 8 3 0 0 m

East 0 3 8 2 2 5 0 m

Zone

DEVELOPMENT: Drilled in late 1940's by U.S.G.C.; drilled in Sept 1984 by PCBPI

ACTIVITY AT TIME OF EXAMINATION: Road building for P.C.B.P.I.

GEOLOGY: Bedded gypsum and associated limestone of Jurassic age occur in several masses for about 2 miles north-south on the western side of the West Humboldt Range. All the rocks are in the upper plate of the thrust, and are structurally complex. Bedding has varied attitudes, although north dips are quite common, and is severely contorted locally. Although the thickness of the main gypsum unit cannot be determined, recently drilled vertical holes reportedly encountered as much as 280 feet of gypsum. According to Johnson (1977, p.75) anhydrite was encountered at depth of 70 to 140 feet, and the overall gypsum -anhydrite content is about 77%.

The surface of the gypsum consists of a medium - gray crust several inches thick devoid of vegetation. Below this to a depth of about 12" some vertical banding and vugs are present, indicating a slight leaching of gypsum. Some of the gypsum-rich material is indistinctly bedded and quite pure. More commonly, however, the material consists of white, friable, pure gypsum with variable amounts of light-gray, harder rock containing calcite and gypsum in beds less than one inch thick. The impure material constitutes as much as one-fifth by volume. A few units of limestone up to 3 feet thick are also present and several bodies of fine-grained igneous rock with disseminated pyrite intrude the gypsum. The better quality gypsum has practically no iron-staining and has minor quartz, mica, and montmorillonite as impurities.

REMARKS: Samples 002716 and 002717 are from this deposit.

REFERENCES: Johnson, M.G. (1977) Geology and Mineral Deposits of Pershing County, Nevada: Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, Bull. 89, p. 74-75.

EXAMINER: Keith G. Papke

DATE VISITED: 10/8/84