136
Item 31

GETCHELL MINE, INC.

GOLCONDA, NEVADA

3680 0031

August 21, 1961

John H. Schilling
University of Nevada
Nevada Bureau of Mines
Reno, Nevada

Dear Mr. Schilling:

I hope you will pardon me for being so late in answering your letter of July 18. I have been away quite a bit during the past month and have also had some difficulty in digging out the information you requested.

The Molybdenite Concentrate sold by the Getchell Mines was apparently sold in August of 1958 and consisted of 19,058 pounds dry weight. The Molybdenum content was 45.35% representing 8,642.8 pounds of Molybdenum. This material was apparently a flotation concentrate but may have been upgraded in some other manner. The final grade was still below most Molybdenite Concentrate. It is not possible for me to say exactly where this material was mined, however it would be my thought that it was recovered from ores mined on Getchell property and also from custom ores from the imediate area.

I see no reason why you should not mention this in your publication. The price paid for the Molybdenum was $1.10 per pound.

Sincerely,

William H. Hisle

William H. Hisle,
General Manager

WHH/js

(136)

GETCHELL MINE, INC.

GOLCONDA, NEVADA

July 13, 1961

Mr. John H. Schilling, Mining Geologist
Nevada Bureau of Mines
University of Nevada
Reno, Nevada

Dear Mr. Schilling:

The following comments are offered in regard to the description of molybdenum occurrences at the Getchell Mine:

Company records indicate that $9,788.71 was received from the sale of molybdenum in 1957. I am not certain whether this was sold as a flotation concentrate or as a by-product from a small acid plant used to treat tungsten concentrate.

In my opinion, the second sentence under "Geology" could be stated a little differently. The common occurrence of high temperature sulphides, such as molybdenite, and the low temperature sulphides, realgar and orpiment, is only found in the granodiorite dikes and sill that have penetrated the shale along the Getchell fault.

I believe it would be more nearly accurate to say: "Molybdenite and minor amounts of Ilsemannite are associated with orpiment, realgar, marcasite and stibnite in granodiorite dikes and sills that have penetrated siliceous gold ore occurring in the sheared shale in and along the hanging wall of the north-northwest-trending Getchell fault."

Sincerely yours,

William H. Hisle

William H. Hisle
General Manager

WHH/mh

July 18, 1961

Mr. William H. Hisle, General Manager
Getchell Mine, Inc.
Golconda, Nevada

Dear Mr. Hisle:

Thank you for your fine letter of July 13th. It has been very useful.

I was very interested in your mention of molybdenum sold by your company in 1957. Was this from the Getchell mine, or from one of the other mines Getchell Mines, Inc. operated in the area? Do you know how many pounds of molybdenum the material sold contained? Finally would it be OK to mention this production (including dollar value and pounds of Mo, if known) in the publication we plan on "Molybdenum in Nevada".

We deeply appreciate your help. Please let us know if there is anything we can do in return.

Sincerely,

John H. Schilling
Mining Geologist

JHS:hm

HUMBOLDT COUNTY

OSGOOD MOUNTAINS

50. Getchell Mine

Location:	Mainly Sec. 33, T. 39 N., R. 42 E.
Molybdenum production:	None.
Development:	Extensive underground workings and pits made while mining gold and tungsten.
Geology:	MOLYBDENITE, chalcopyrite, and pyrite are associated with scheelite in tactite zones in limestone along the northeast side of the granodiorite stock in the north-central part of the Osgood Mountains. MOLYBDNITE and ILSEMANITE are associated with orpiment, realgar, marcasite, and stibnite in the siliceous gold ore occurring in the sheared shale along the wide north-northwest-trending Getchell fault. } ?
References:	(1) Hardy, R. A., 1941, Geology of the Getchell mine: Trans. A.I.M.E., vol. 144, p. 147. (2) Joralemon, P., 1951, The occurrence of gold at the Getchell mine, Nevada: Econ. Geology, vol. 46, no. 3, p. 273.
Base map:	U. S. Geological Survey, Osgood Mountains 15-minute topographic quadrangle map.

This enclosure should have been in my letter of July 6th

John H. Schilling

July 6, 1961

Mr. William H. Hisle, General Manager
Getchell Mine
Golconda, Nevada

Dear Mr. Hisle:

The Nevada Bureau of Mines is compiling a report describing briefly each occurrence of molybdenum minerals in Nevada. Enclosed is the description we plan to include about the Getchell mine. I would appreciate having this description checked over, any correction or additions made, and the corrected copy returned to me. We would like to make the description as concise and complete as possible, and the published information about the occurrence, unfortunately is very sketchy.

Sincerely yours,

John H. Schilling
Mining Geologist

JHS:hm

enc. (1)

HUMBOLDT COUNTY

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Base map:	U. S. Geological Survey, Osgood Mountains 15-minute topographic quadrangle map.

Wm. H. Hisle, Gen Manager
Getchell Mine
Golconda, Nevada

A. Joe Greves, Geologist

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PHONE (AREA CODE 702) 786-3430

THE GOLDFIELD CORPORATION
ROOM 10 - SOLARI BUILDING
70 LINDEN STREET
RENO, NEVADA
85902

136

March 11, 1965

Miss LaVerne Rollin
Technical Editor
Mackay School of Mines
University of Nevada
Reno, Nevada

Dear Miss Rollin:

In answer to your letter of February 26, requesting some background information and photos of the Getchell Mine operation for use in the summer issue of "Nevada Highways and Parks", the following information is offered and may be used as you see fit. At the moment, no photos are available, however, we will try to send you a few within the next week or so.

The Goldfield Corporation operates the Getchell Mine which is located on the East flank of the Osgood Range in the East Central part of Humboldt County, Nevada, approximately twenty-five miles from Golconda and forty-six miles from Winnemucca, Nevada. This area contains deposits of gold, base metal and tungsten that have been mined intermittently since 1883. It is known as the Potosi Mining District. The Getchell Mine holdings total in excess of 23,000 acres, including 17,623.6 acres of patented land. The remainder being mining claims held by right of mineral location.

The Getchell Mine gold ore deposit was discovered in 1934. Mining was started in 1937 and the construction of a cyanide mill for treatment of oxide ores was completed in early 1938. The cyanide treatment of oxide ore was quite successful and the first bullion was poured in 1938. As mining reached lower depths and sulphide ores were encountered, it became obvious that the sulphide ore would have to be processed differently from the oxide. Rotary kilns were installed to provide an oxidizing roast for certain fractions of the ore before cyanidation. While the work on the sulphide ore was not too successful, gold production continued until 1945 when it was necessary to discontinue operations because of man power and supply shortages.

During the period of gold production a number of the tungsten deposits were developed and facilities were installed for milling tungsten ores. The company produced tungsten between 1942 through 1945. Gold production was resumed in 1948 and continued through 1949 and 1950. For the most part, oxide ores were milled; however, work was continued to develop a satisfactory method of handling the sulphide ores. A satisfactory solution to the sulphide metallurgy was not achieved, and with the advent of the Korean War all gold production was discontinued and all efforts were concentrated on the production of tungsten. Tungsten production continued through the years 1951 through 1955 under a government sponsored program involving a guaranteed price of $55.00 per standard short ton unit. When the government terminated this program of tungsten subsidies, it was not possible to operate the Getchell tungsten deposits at the existing market price of $22.00 to $24.00 per unit. Then at the end of 1956, all mining activities were discontinued at the Getchell Mine.

Following discovery of the Getchell ore, a new corporation was formed, Getchell Mine, Inc., with Messrs. George Wingfield and Noble Getchell as major stockholders and President and Vice President respectively. After the deaths of Messrs. Wingfield and Getchell in late 1959 The Goldfield Corporation, then known as The Goldfield Consolidated Mines Company, purchased stock from the Wingfield and Getchell estates. This represented 42.6% of the Getchell Mine, Inc., stock. Getchell Mine, Inc. was merged into The Goldfield Corporation in September of 1963.

After acquisition of the Getchell stock, The Goldfield Corporation immediately behan making plans to return the Getchell Mine to operations as a gold producer. Gold production resumed in June of 1962 and continues to-date.

Very truly yours,

William H. Hisle

William H. Hisle,
Vice President-
Mining

WHH:jm