

PANTHER CANYON  
PROSPECT  
(294) Item 21

Mill City, Nevada  
December 29, 1942

Mr. T. B. Nolan  
U. S. Geological Survey  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Nolan:

You may recall that during your recent stopover at Lovelock I mentioned a scheelite property belonging to Fred Johnson, the Rare Metals Corp. foreman at the Long tungsten mine. His property is a few hundred feet above Humboldt Valley, near the mouth of Panther Canyon. This is in the Rye Patch (Echo) mining district on the westflank of the Humboldt Range, Pershing County, Nevada. It can be reached from highway U. S. 40 by turning east at Rye Patch siding (21 miles northeast of Lovelock by U. S. 40 or the Southern Pacific R. R.), and following a 2½ mile dirt road across the fan and into the canyon. An alternative route is an old surfaced road that branches east from U. S. 40 at Oresma, and continues north parallel to it. This road intersects the Rye Patch road near the mouth of Panther Canyon.

The claims are underlain by dense dark blue and black limestones, which has been deformed by folding and faulting. Farther up the canyon the limestone has been intruded by "granite", and small stibnite veins have been found. In the vicinity of the scheelite mineralization the beds dip to the north at moderate angles. The rocks are broken by intersecting closely spaced faults or joints, and, in a few places, by gouge zones up to 10' wide. Many of the smaller cracks are filled with quartz or calcite. Often this filling has been fractured.

Two zones of scheelite mineralization have been prospected. The better is a 1' scheelite-bearing quartz vein that crops out for a length of 400'. It has been prospected by a short adit and followed for 75' by an incline shaft. (See sketch). Scheelite is irregularly distributed in the vein, probably averaging 0.5%. A little colorless beryl was found on the dump from this vein. About 25 tons of 1% WO<sub>3</sub> ore has been stockpiled.

100' lower on the hill a 6" quartz stringer that contains 0.5% scheelite has been prospected by two short adits.

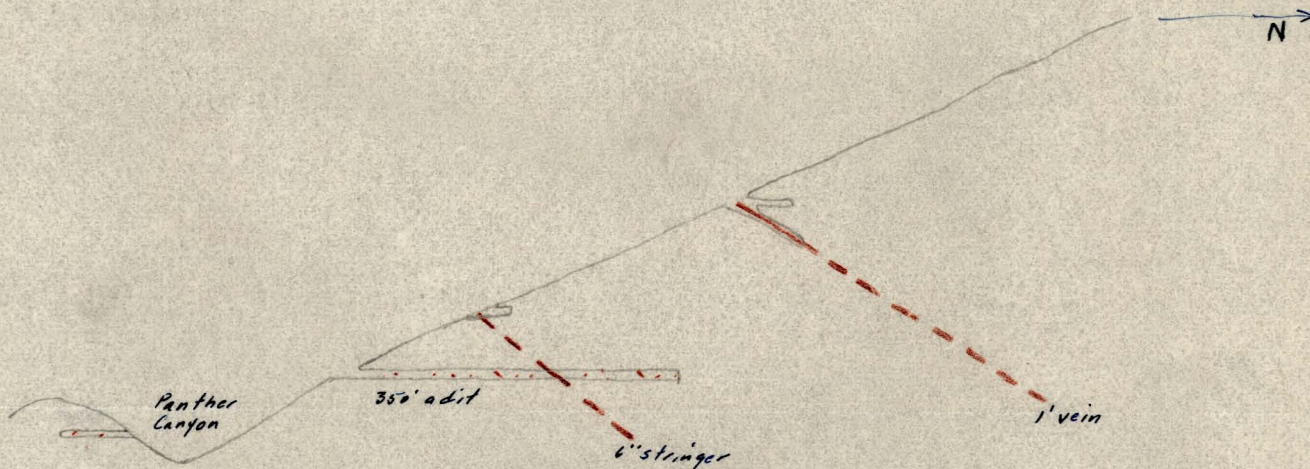
50' below this a 350' adit (cross cut) has been driven into the hill to intersect the two stringers mentioned above. A number of 1"-6" scheelite-bearing quartz stringers and joint planes with scattered scheelite crystals

have been intersected. They are lenticular and generally widely spaced; the best is a 6" stringer of 1% ore. It is followed by a 40' incline raise and a short drift. It may be continuous with the 6" stringer exposed at the surface. (See sketch). The face of the adit is 350' short of the projected position of the 1' vein, but faulting may complicate the picture.

A few crystals of scheelite have been found in an iron oxide-stained shear zone on the south side of the canyon. The zone is said to average 6 ounces of silver.

There is little likelihood that these narrow, widely spaced, and low grade stringers contain commercial ore. Mr. Johnson intends to drive the 350' adit to intersect the 1' vein. He says he's not optimistic but just inquisitive enough to find out whether the vein "blossoms" into an ore shoot at this depth.

Vertical Projection normal to strike  
of prominent stringers.  
1" equals 200'



cc.  
D. M. Lemmon  
File

Sincerely yours,

M. R. Klepper