

5020 0008

PROPERTY NAME: Tunnel Hill

OTHER NAMES: \_\_\_\_\_

MINERAL COMMODITY(IES): Diatomite

TYPE OF DEPOSIT: Fresh - water lake

ACCESSIBILITY: Haul road to property

OWNERSHIP: Controlled by Eagle Picher Industries

PRODUCTION: Large past production, filter grade

HISTORY: Production started about 1958.

County: Pershing Item 9

Mining District: Velvet

AMS Sheet: Lovelock

Quad Sheet: Seven Troughs SE 7 1/2'

Sec. 25, T 28N, R 28E

Coordinate (UTM):

North	<u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>8</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u> m
East	<u>0</u> <u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>7</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u> m
Zone	_____

DEVELOPMENT: Pit about 1600 feet long, N45°E, up to 800' wide at SW end. Max depth 80 feet.

ACTIVITY AT TIME OF EXAMINATION: None; semi active mine.

GEOLOGY: A diatomite unit of Miocene(?) age is present in the pit area in a small basin completely surrounded by basalt hills. The diatomite dips 15° or less south or east and has total exposed stratigraphic thickness of 100 feet. Faults, mostly high angle, are common; offsets usually are less than 10 feet. Minor flexures are also present; some of these are caused by soft-bed folding.

In the lower part of the sequence, beds of impurities generally 2 to 12 inches thick are spaced at 6-inch to 8-foot intervals. Most of these beds are volcanic glass with varied amounts of grit; some also contain diatoms. In the upper part of the diatomite unit several beds of non diatomite are present. These are up to 10 feet thick but very lensy; in some places they crosscut beds, apparently because of infilling, and one shows cut-and-fill into diatomite. In the southwestern face a thin sliver of basalt is downfaulted onto diatomite.

Bedding of the diatomite ranges from laminated to thin bedded. The white, fine-grained diatomite consists mostly of Melosira. The material is very slightly iron-stained locally and contains a few very-thin beds rich in dark iron oxides. Samples 002727 is diatomite.

REMARKS: \_\_\_\_\_

REFERENCES: \_\_\_\_\_

EXAMINER: Keith G. Papke

DATE VISITED: 10/11/84