5240 0004

(19) Item 4

NW-33-3
~~Au, Ag,~~ Pb, Zeolites,

Mining District: WESTGATE
(Gold, Silver, Lead, Zeolites)

T. 15-17 N., R. 35-36 E.
Churchill County, Nevada
AMS Reno Map Sheet 1971,
Millett Map Sheet 1955

GENERAL BACKGROUND

Indicated mineral area NW-33-3 encompasses a tract of land lying to the north and to the south of U. S. Highway 50, extending from about 2 miles east of Chalk Mountain to Middlegate.

No ore production values are available for the district. Much of the development occurred between 1910 and 1920.

In 1939, the Westgate Mining and Milling Co. completed a cyanidation mill at Westgate which could handle 35 tons per day. The mill operated on custom ores from the Nevada Wonder Mine, with smaller tonnages from Fairview's Nevada Hills Mine, Eastgate's Gold Ledge Mine, and many other claims within 50 miles of the mill.

Zeolites were first discovered near Middlegate in the 1950's. There has been no commercial production.

GEOLOGICAL AND TECHNICAL DATA

The oldest rocks in the area are dolomite and limestone of Upper Triassic age. Just north of U. S. Highway 50, the carbonates have been metamorphosed to marble. Other lithologic units in the area are: Lower Jurassic shaly limestones, limy shales and shales, Jurassic quartz arenite and limestone, Jurassic-Triassic volcanic conglomerates, basalt and andesite flows, Tertiary rhyolite tuffs and welded tuffs, and Quaternary sediments. The shales south of U. S. Highway 50 have been metamorphosed to argillite, slate, and hornfels.

The Triassic and Jurassic carbonates form a sequence that is folded about a northerly-trending axis. The volcanic sediments and basalt and andesite flows have been thrust over the sedimentary units. The Tertiary tuffs have been faulted against the Triassic and Jurassic units or lie unconformably upon them. There are many thrust faults and normal faults in the area.

Bennett, 1975

The Westgate district's mineral deposits occur only in the Triassic and Jurassic rocks. Quartz veins occur in the carbonates in the northern portion of the district and in the slates south of U. S. Highway 50. In the center of the district, shafts and adits explore shear zones within the marble.

The Shamrock Group of claims is located several miles due east of Fairview Peak and several miles southwest of Westgate. The previous claim owner, the late Cye Cox of Fallon, discovered native gold on the property in 1936. The gold was discovered along fractures in rhyolite breccia which is stained with iron oxide and manganese. Gouge material up to a foot in width is associated with some of the fractures. The principal fractures have a northwest strike.

Alteration of volcanic ash that fell into saline lakes formed the zeolite deposits.

POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT

Although there are numerous prospects in the area the potential for significant production of metals from these properties is generally remote.

If commercial applications are developed for the natural zeolite deposits development would be immediate.

COMPANIES AND CLAIMANTS ACTIVE IN THE AREA

1. DARK NIGHT Group
   Charles Barrett
   3400 York Lane
   Fallon, Nevada 89406
   (9 lode claims)

2. RED STAR Group
   Kenneth Bryant
   2180 Rice Road
   Fallon, Nevada
   (6 lode claims)

3. SHAMROCK Group
   Jasper Wheeler
   P. O. Box 218
   Fallon, Nevada
   (9 lode claims)

4. MG Group
   James Keighley
   320 Keitzke Lane
   Reno, Nevada 89502
   (21 lode claims)

5. Elizabeth Matthews
   Box 416
   Beatty, Nevada 89003
   (placer and mill site)

Bennett, 1975

SELECTED REFERENCES

1. Papke, 1972, Eronite and other associated zeolites in Nevada.

2. Willden and Speed: Geology and mineral deposits of Churchill County, Nevada; U.S.G.S. Open-file report, 1968.

FIELD EXAMINATION

Hoke, November 1974

Bennett, 1975


ALKALI FLAT
Cattle camp
Corral
STILLWATER
NATIONAL
LDLIFE REFUGE
NW-29-1
NW-27-5
DIXIE VALLEY
Ranch (ruins)
Ranch
TABLE MOUNTAIN
MT LINCOLN
NW-33-1
NW-28-4
PIROUET MTN
ROUND MTN
Wonder (ruins)
TWIN PEAKS
U S NAVAL
ELECTRONIC WARFARE
TRAINING AREA
NW-33-4
CHALK MOUNTAIN
NW-33-7
NW-33-3
Frenchman
Alkali flat
U S NAVAL
Targets
TARGET AREA
TARGET
AREA
BAKER 17
FAIRVIEW PEAK
NW-33-6

Taken from:

Mineral Resources Inventory and Analysis

of the

Clan Alpine Planning Unit

Carson City District

by

R. E. Bennett and C. L. Hoke

1975

for complete introduction see Churchill Co.-general files Item 17