

413 Granville St.

May 1, 1952.

Western Exploration Co. Ltd.,
Silverton, B. C.

Gentlemen:-

In line with your recent request a brief report on the property and operations of the Western Exploration Company Ltd. follows:-

Your Company owns three silver-lead-zinc mines situated in the Slocan Mining Division of British Columbia and known as the Standard, Buffalo-Mammoth and Enterprise mines, and also a 250 ton capacity concentrator at Silverton, B. C. Ore is hauled to the concentrator by truck from the Standard and Enterprise mines, 2½ and 14 miles respectively. Ore from the Buffalo-Mammoth mine is transported over an aerial tramway about 4½ miles long.

The Standard and Buffalo-Mammoth mines lie in a single block of 32 Mineral claims, nearly all Crown Granted; the Enterprise mine is in a separate block of 10 Crown Granted claims.

The Company also owns 110 Crown Granted Mineral claims adjacent to the property of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. Ltd. at Kimberley, B. C.

The STANDARD mine is an old one with the largest production and dividend record of any mine in the district. Numerous new ore-bodies within the wide lode have been found in recent years, in addition to lower grade ore around old stopes which was formerly of sub-marginal grade, but which at present prices is profitable. Stoping is at present confined to No. 7 level, the lowest now opened, however there is still some ore in the upper levels which can be salvaged. On account of heavy ground, which is expensive to keep open, development has not been carried far ahead of stoping.

The ENTERPRISE mine is also an "old timer". It has a narrow but persistent vein of high grade ore. Development is now underway on the 8th and 9th levels and is proving up a fair amount of ore. Stoping is at present being done between the 5th and 4th levels. Unexplored ground east of some of the upper levels, as well as the lower ones is believed to be favourable for further development of ore.

The BUFFALO-MAMMOTH Mine, which was worked out down to the 7th level during the war years, has now been opened to a further depth of 320 feet, vertical, by No. 8 and No. 9 levels. Stoping is well under way above the 8th level over widths of 5 to 30 feet. On the 9th level preparations for stoping are now under way and further development is planned.

A detailed geological examination was made last summer of an area along the westerly course of the Mammoth vein which indicates that conditions favourable for the formation of an orebody exist about fifteen hundred feet west of the Monarch tunnel of the Buffalo-Mammoth mine, and at the elevation of that tunnel, in a section where the vein-shear outcrop is covered with heavy overburden. The tunnel and equipment is now being prepared to start a drift to explore this section of the lode.

Estimated Ore Reserves for all three mines as of May 1st, 1952, are as follows:-

<u>Positive Ore</u>	<u>Probable Ore</u>	<u>Possible Ore</u>	<u>Total Ore</u>
19,705 tons	19,154 tons	20,055 tons	58,914 tons

("Possible Ore" represents ore that has, to date, been exposed on one side only, and is assumed to extend up or down for a distance not exceeding 50 feet.)

The grade of the ore is approximately the same as that treated during the year ending April 30th, 1952.

The present tonnage milled from the mines is about 2000 tons per month, nearly half of which comes from the Buffalo-Mammoth mine. The mines could produce considerable more tonnage per month were it not for a chronic shortage of good miners and especially of skilled timbermen competent to timber the heavy ground which is usually encountered.

All three mines are in good physical condition and have favourable ground which is still unexplored. The concentrator and other equipment is modern, in good condition, and a high recovery of the contained metals is being made. The management is good.

Respectfully yours,

Chas. C. Starr
Consulting Engineer