

Name: J.A.

802051

Location: NTS Area 92 J/7
Lat. 50° 28' 35" Long. 120° 58' 30"
Mining Division: Kamloops
- adjacent to the other major deposits of Bethlehem Copper
in the Highland Valley

Owner: Bethlehem Copper Corporation

Description: porphyry copper-molybdenum deposit/host rock - quartz-
diorite mineralization as disseminated occurring in
fractures and veins

Reserves: 286,280,000 tons avg. .43% Cu and .017% MoS₂
cutoff grade .25% Cu (Bethlehem Copper Corp. AR
1977)

Development: 1971 - discovery by drilling
1972 - drilling - 111 holes, 148,000'
1973 - limited work/further work deferred
1976 - feasibility study into u/g block caving methods

Potential
Operation: - company has examined both open pit and u/g methods;
preliminary pit has been designed to extract 125 to 150
million tons of ore; waste to ore ratio 3.42:1
- "Recently, however, a re-examination of the JA zone was
undertaken to determine the feasibility of mining it by
underground block caving methods. While studies are not
complete, it appears that if certain technical questions
under study can be positively answered approx. 130 million
tons of ore grading .31% copper and .027% molybdenum may
be economically recoverable at copper prices substantially
lower than those required for open pit mining of the JA
(although higher than current depressed prices). Block
core reserves would be sufficient to feed the present mill
for approximately 17 years at its current production rate"
(Bethlehem Copper Corp., AR 1976).

Impediments:

- development will depend on corporate priorities
- "This core is covered with deep overburden (avg. 600'), removal of which would be so costly as to render an open pit plan for JA uneconomic at current copper prices." (Bethlehem Copper AR 1976)
- stripping ratio 3.42 to 1

Comments:

- property located at approx. 4,000' elevation
- property 3 km from Bethlehem mill