## MINNOVA Inc.

**MEMORANDUM** 

DATE:

March 21, 1988

A TO:

D.H.Watkins

COPIES A COPIES TO:

J. Purkis

DE FROM: \_\_\_\_\_

SUJET

A.J. Davidson

NORTH AMERICAN METALS - GOLDEN BEAR PROPERTY - Telegraph Creek Area

# SUMMARY

COMPANY - North American Metals

- 8 million shares outstanding at \$4.00

PRINCIPAL ASSET - 50% interest in Golden Bear deposit with Chevron Canada

**LOCATION** - Northwestern B.C., 93km by road (to be built) from Telegraph Creek.

**RESERVES** - 625,000 tonnes at 18.6g/T Au including: 320,000 tonnes @ 16.37g/T Au - open pit 304,000 tonnes @ 20.94g/T Au - underground

PROJECTED CAPITAL COSTS - \$40 million

**PROJECTED OPERATING COSTS - \$110/tonnes** 

**EXPLORATION POTENTIAL** - Poor to increase known mineable deposit - Good to find additional lenses/shoots.

**ENVIRONMENTAL** - AIP approved for all except air emissions and lake tailings disposal.

**ECONOMICS** - \$22 million NPV at DCF of 10%. \$15 million NPV at DCF of 15.

#### INTRODUCTION

Following a \$4.00 / share takeover offer of North American Metals by Homestake, North American has been inviting other companies to review their principle asset - the Golden Bear/Muddy Lake property in Northwestern B.C. With the aim of finding someone willing to pay a higher dollar. John Purkis and I reviewed the data from the property in N.A.M's offices on March 18, 1988.

# THE COMPANY

N.A.M. currently have 8 million shares outstanding (fully diluted). A few directors control about 10-15% of the stock. Principle directors are Bob Hunter (Lincoln/Breakwater) and Bob Dickenson . Assets of the company are:

- a) a 50% working interest in the Golden Bear JV (with Chevron).
- b) a 30% interest in Steelhead Resources Ltd. which has the right to purchase a 100% interest in the Excelsior Au-Ag property near Bellingham W.A.
- c) a 25% working interest in the Seal River gold project near Churchill Manitoba.

The company's principle asset in its interest in Golden Bear.

## THE PROPERTY

The Golden Bear/Muddy Lake property is located 80km northwest of Telegraph Creek in northern B.C. on the east side of the Coast Mountains. A 93km road is presently being constructed to access the property from Telegraph Creek. Cost of the road is presently estimated at \$9.2 million based on a fixed contract for about 85% of the items. Approvals have been received for the road and work is underway.

#### ORE RESERVES

Ore reserves on the property are presently estimated at 625,000 tonnes grading 18.6 g/T Au. This reserve is broken down as follows:

Open pit - 321,252 tonnes @ 16.37~g/T Au Underground - 304,138 tonnes @ 20.94~g/T Au

About 50 holes, 12 crosscuts and 6 trenches have been used to define the ore reserves. Two blocks (underground) each totalling 12,000 tonnes have only been defined by one hole each. The other 8 underground blocks are based on 2-6 holes and 1-3 crosscuts each. The pit blocks are based on 2-6 holes each. Maximum block size underground is 70,000 tonnes and maximum pit block is 30,000 tonnes. In general the ore reserves seem good and the drill hole results have been confirmed by both the x-cut sampling the muck samples from the c-cuts and from a small test stope. Unfortunately ore in the pit is zoned roughly from low grade (7-15 g/T Au) at the top to higher grade (15-22 g/T Au) at deeper levels. Since mining in the pit will necessarily start at the top the higher grade pit ore will not be available unitl the third year of production. This has a severe affect on payback, NPV and cash flow.

Based on the 50 drillholes, 12 x-cuts etc a block-model was developed by A.M.S. of Denver. The reserves were then calculated from this model of 6.5m c 6m blocks of ore. The data points (holes and crosscuts) are variable but are generally 12.5-37m apart.

No external dilution has been factored into the ore reserves. This is because N.A.M. say that the hangingwall contact is extremely sharp and represented by the transition of soft fault gouge to competent bleached tuffs. They say that the rocks do not appear to be under stress and that no overbreaking has been experienced in either their x-cuts or their one test stope. The footwall contact is an assay cutoff so no dilution is necessary!

#### **GEOLOGY**

The Golden Bear deposit occurs along a major structure at the contact between a dolomite unit to the west and as tuff to the east. A quartz-dolomite breccia, a pyritic tuff and a strong fault gouge have been developed as a result of this structure and it is these three units that host the Au mineralization. The sequence of units from hangingwall to footwall is fault gouge to pyritic tuff to quartz breccia. The richest ore is in the fault gouge and the pyritic tuff.

The ore zone dips steeply east and the hangingwall contact is both sharp and marked by mineralized gouge. The footwall contact into the dolomite is an assay contact and test holes will be necessary to define the  $3.0~\rm g/T$  cutoff.

The ore zone has a strike length of about 500m, a dip extent of 100-150m and a thickness of 3-10m.

#### MINING METHOD

N.A.M. and A.M.S. have decided to mine the deposit by cut-and-fill methods. Stopes will be 25m long by the width of the orebody (in 2-3 slices) by 6m high. Long holing was considered but abandonned because of very poor ground conditions in the ore. Fill will be pumped up the hill from the mill and mixed with 4% cement. All development will be in the dolomite footwall which apparently is good ground. The main haulage is the 1360m elevation which is below the landslide rubble. Development will be tracked and ore from both the pit and from underground will be moved to the 1360, trammed to the portal and skipped down the hill on a railed skip. There seems to ba concious effort being made not to over-build and to keep openings small.

Mining costs are estimated at \$50 / tonne (combined open pit and underground). The pit will operate for 4 months of the year and underground all year. Feed will be 60% underground and 40% mill for a total of 115,000 T / year.

#### MILLING

Ore, shipped to the mill, will be crushed to -35 mesh then roasted. The calcine product will be subjected to a CIP process a la Lac Shortt. Recoveries now are about 87% (not 93%) but can be improved to 90% with the installation of a regrind circuit (an extra \$600,000 in capital costs). Tailings disposal will be on land until a permit can be acquired for direst disposal into Muddy Lake. Capital costs for the mill etc. are expected to be \$7,000,000. The mill design etc. was done by Melis and is by far the most comprehensive part of the feasibility study. According to Franzen, Wright Engineers were "simply terrible" he finally even had to take the typing of the feasibility report away from them. He strongly recommends avoiding Wright Engineering. Milling costs are expected to be \$50-60 / tonne. Approval in Principle has been received for all aspects of the project except lake tailing's disposal and air emissions. The government will wait to see how bad the emissions are before setting the standards.

#### CAPITAL COSTS

Capital costs are expected to be about \$40 million including the road. A contingency of about 10% has been built in. John Purkis has more detail on the capital costs and the reliability of their estimates.

#### **EXPLORATION POTENTIAL**

The potential for discovering more ore at Golden Bear is very analogous to that at Samatosum. That is, these is little potential to add tonnes to the known orebody but there is good potential to discover new lenses or ore shoots both downdip and along strike. In fact disseminated and patchy mineralization extends along strike for an extra 200m. This mineralization is located on the footwall to (lower grade side) and internal to the quartz breccia and overall is lower grade and more erratic than the main hangingwall pyritic zones.

Also virtually no drilling has been done below the 1300m elevation or between Bear and Fleece.

The Fleece zone is located about 1.5km north of the Bear zone along the same structure. The Fleece ore appears in a sliver of volcanics in limestone, is analogous to the quartz breccia ore at Bear ie lower grade and erratic. The Fleece zone is 500m stike by 150m dip by 1.5 to 4m thick. The published inventory is as follows:

<u>Zone</u>	Tons	<u>Au (opt)</u>	<pre>Cutoff (opt)</pre>
Α	304,000	.23	.1
В	62,000	.31	.2
С	173,000	.15	.1
Dyke	32,000	.61	.2

The zone does not outcrop and is thin and erratic ie one intersection/section and not consistent. However with sufficient underground exploration a reserve of maybe 500,000 tonnes of low grade could be developed.

The Totem zone is 3-5km north of Fleece and consists of about 25 holes of which about 7 have hit values of 1-2 g/T Au over width of 1-3m. Best intersection is 6.1 g/T Au / 4.5m.

The structure persists off the property to the north onto Chevron - Lightning Creek Mines (J. Dupuis) JV ground.

#### **ECONOMICS**

A cash flow summary at Gold = \$400 US is attached. Recoveries shown here are at 93-94%. Anticipated recovery though is only 90%. The attached scenario shows a 1988 startup. The most optimistic startup now is mid 1989. On a DCF basis the project is shown (as attached) to have an NPV at 10% of \$22 million or at 15% of \$15 million. NAM's share would be \$11 million and 7.5 million respectively. Total cash flow from the project (undiscounted) would be \$83 million less capital cost of \$38 million = \$45 million (NAM share \$41.5m - \$19m = \$22.5m). The project makes good economic sense from NAM's or Chevron's point of

view. On a purely project basis the project does not make sense if one has to first take over NAM at 4.50-5.00/share (\$36 million to \$40 million) plus another \$20 million to put the thing into production ie \$60 million for a 50% share in a project with a total NPV of 15-22 million.

# **CONCLUSIONS**

A better project than I had thought but not for Minnova. We have a philosophy of massive sulphides and gold near available infrastructure. This project does not meet these criteria. Minnova can do better by spending the \$40 million (take over) or \$60 million (takeover and capital cost) on its own exploration or by buying into something better situated and less capital intensive.

A.J. Davidson

AJD:sv

#### CASHFLOW SUMMARY - PAGE 1 8 MILLIONS CAN.

1889

	1987		1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	ACCUM		
	0.000	0.033	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	3.104	0.000	0.597		
GOLD GRADE (OZ/TONNE)	0.000	0.328	0.517	0.643	0.738	0.610	3.560	0.000	0.599		
GOLD RECOVERY (X)	0.0	91.3	93.0	93.9	94.0	93.9	93.6	.0.0	93.6		
GOLD PRICE (US\$/OZ)	0	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400		
ORE MILLED (MILLIONS TONNES) GOLD GRADE (OZ/TONNE) GOLD RECOVERY (X) GOLD PRICE (US\$/OZ) EXCHANGE RATE TOTAL REVENUE (CAN\$)	0.000	1.333	1.333	1.333	1.333	1.333	1.333	1.333	1.333		
TOTAL REVENUE (CANS)	0.000	5.271	29.490	37.032	42.548	35.131	29.073	0.000			
-OPERATING COST	0.000	5.210	12.347	12.157	12.042	11.716	3.766	0.000	62.238		
-ROYALTY	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
-FEDERAL INCOME TAX PAID	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.179	4.061	3.953	4.349	0.000	12.542		
-8.C. INCOME TAX PAID	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.373	3.289	3.072	2.815	0.000	9.549		
-B.C. MIN RES TAX PAID	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.372	3.381	3.219	2.991	0.000	9.963		
-MUNICIPAL TAX	0.000	0.200	0.200	0.230	0.200	J.200	3.200	0.000	1.200		
CASH FLOW BEFORE CAPITAL COSTS	0.000	-0.139	16.943	23.752	19.575	12.970	9.952	0.000	83.052		
-CAPITAL COST	6.267	31.793	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	38.060		
-CAPITALIZED INTEREST	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
-WORKING CAPITAL REQUIRED	0.000	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.500		
+WORKING CAPITAL RECOVERY	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.500	0.000	0.500		
+SALVAGE	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
TOTAL CAPITAL COSTS	6.257		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	-0.500	0.000	38.060		
		-32.432	16.943	23.752	19.575	12.970	10.452	0.000	44.992		
CASH FLOW BEFORE FINANCING  +PRIMARY BANK LOAN DRAWDOWN  +OPTIONAL LOAN DRAWDOWN	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
+OPTIONAL LOAN DRAWDOWN	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.330	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
-SCHEDULED LOAN REPAYMENT	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.300	0.000	J.000	0.000	0.000		
-OPTIONAL LOAN REPAYMENT	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
-INTEREST EXPENSE	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000.		
NET EQUITY CASH	-6.267		16.943	23.752	19.575	12.970	10.452	0.000	44.992		
ACCUMULATIVE TOTAL	-6.267			1.995	21.559	34.540	44.992	44.992	0.000		
	=========	=======	========							=======	
DISCOUNTED NCF ( 5.0 %)	-6.116	-30.144	14.997	20.023	15.716	9.718	7.612	0.000	32.006		
DISCOUNTED NCF (10.0 %)	-5.975	-28.112	13.351	17.014	12.748	7.679	5.625	0.000	22.329		
DISCOUNTED NCF ( 5.0 %) DISCOUNTED NCF (10.0 %) DISCOUNTED NCF (15.0 %)	-5.844	-26.299	11.946	14.563	10.436	6.013	4.214	0.000	15.030		
AFTER TAX RATE OF RETURN (%)	33.49	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	33.49		

# **GOLDEN BEAR GEOLOGY**

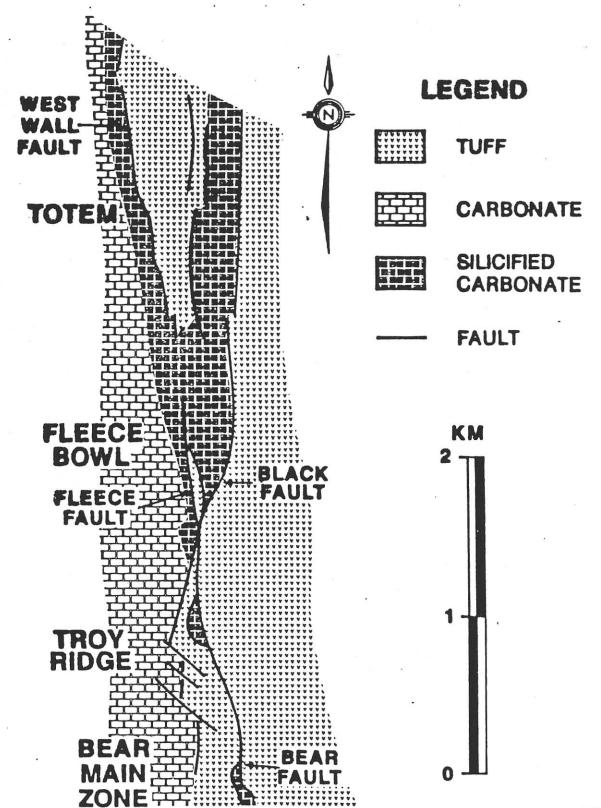
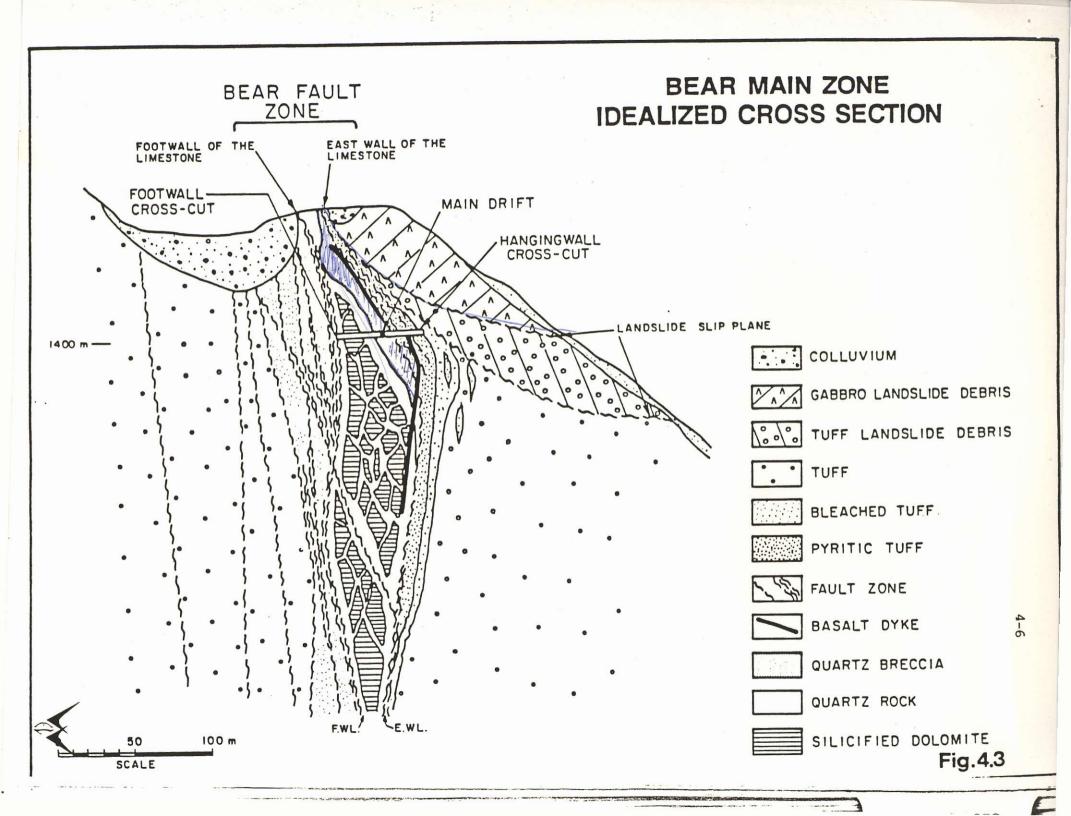
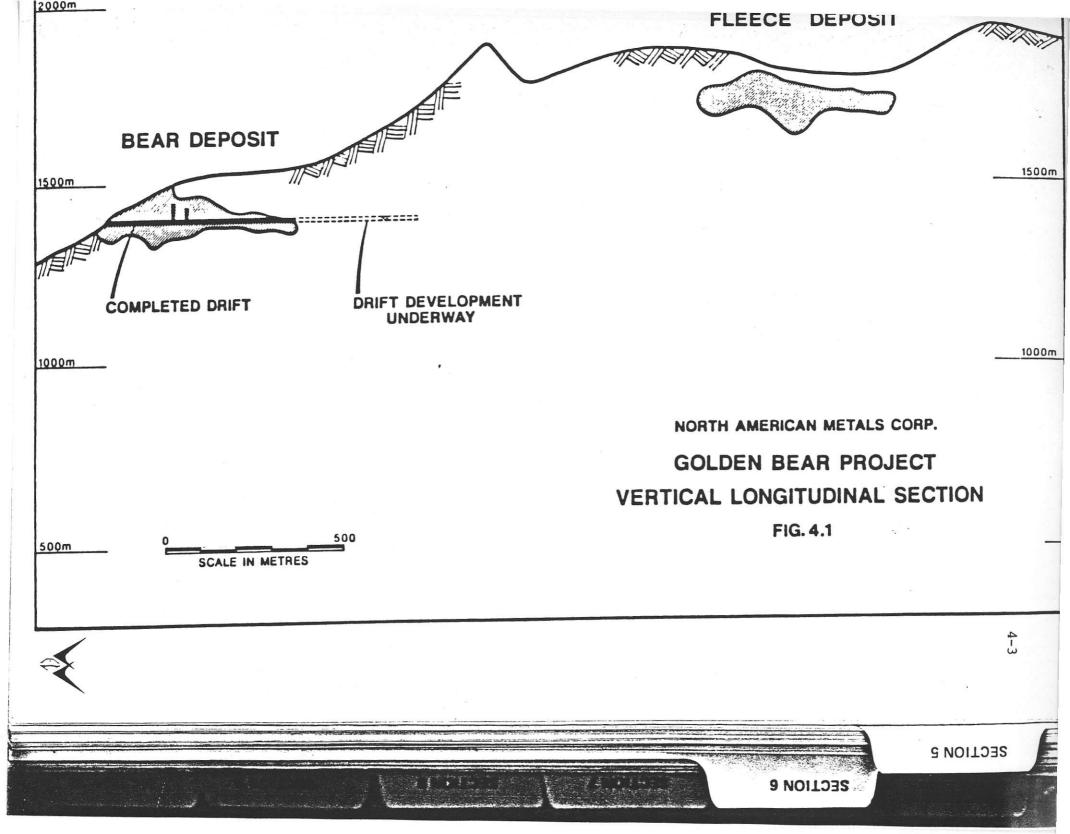


Fig. 4.2





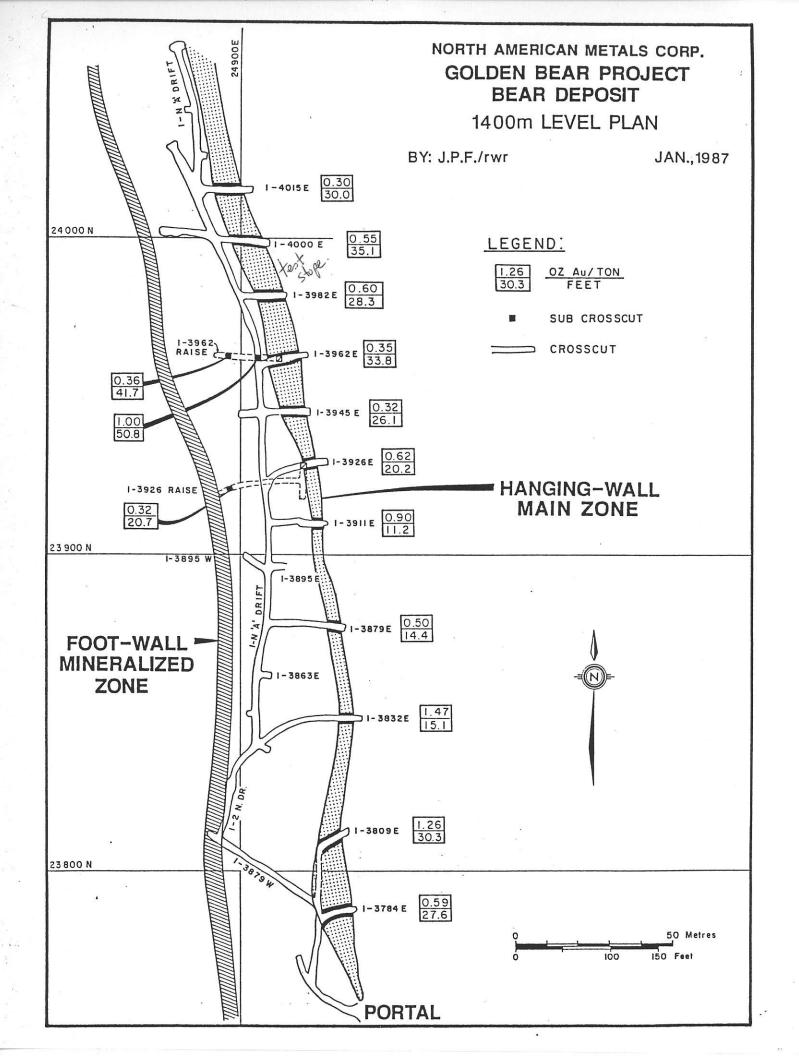


TABLE 5.5

# GOLDEN BEAR JOINT VENTURE - PRODUCTION DATA

# UNDERGROUND

UNDERCROUND LOCATION (ORE ZONE)	TOTAL TONNES	Grams au/ Tonne	AVERAGE STOPE WIDTH	SANDFILL @ 47.00 % OF TOTAL TONNES	NUMBER SLOT RAISES REDUIRED	TONNES ORE PER SLOT RAISE TONNE	TONNES OKE/ SHIFT	TONNES SANDFILL /SHIFT	TOTAL SHIFTS ORE	TOTAL SHIFTS SANDFILL	TOTAL SHIFTS SLUT RAISES	TOTAL SET SHIFTS	TOTAL SHIFTS KEQUIRED	AVERAGE TONNES ORE/SHIFT	AVE TONNES FER CREW SHIFT	ORE CREW MANNING	SANDFILL CREU MANNING	PRODUCTION NAN-SHIFTS REGULKED	SANDFILL MAN-SHIFTS REQUIRED	ORE TON- PER MANSHIE
EH 1300						21 20					25.44				74.70			550.03		
6H 17 1301	23,678	18.85	5.07	11,128	16	21.11 25.75	94.43 94.43	206.32 206.32	250.74 305.87	53.94 65.80	25.44 25.44	. 64	394.12 461.10	60.08 62.64	71.72 72.73	2	3	552.37 662.61	161.81 197.39	33. 33.
74 IXC 1303	28,883 23,789	20.51 22.16	2.61	11,181	18	21.21	69.01	162.8	344.72	83.83	25.44	64	502.84	47.31	54.21	2	ž	740.32	206.03	25.
545 3xC .1304	31,414	37.33	4.29	14,765	16	28.01	84.31	188.34 206.32	372.60 129.69	78.39 27.90	25.44 25.44	64	540.44 247.03	58.13 49.58	65.94	2	3	798.09 310.27	235.18 83.70	30. 31.
4H, 1xc 1305	12,247	14.35 16.30	4.85 2.79	5,756 5,860	16 24	10.92 7.41	94.43 69.01	162.8	180.68	36.00	38.16	64 96	350.84	35.54	48.93	2	ž	437.69	107.99	72.
/AC3H. 1401	56,897	26.08	8.96	26,742	24	33.82	84.31	188.34	674.86	141.99 174.58	38.16	96	951.00	59.83	66.55	2	3	1426.03 1659.52	425.96 523.73	32.
5 Hy 1402	69,957 32,624	18.80 10.12	10.28	32,880 15,333	15	31.03	84.31 94.43	188.34 206.32	829.76 345.48	74.32	23.85	96	1004.34 539.65	69.65 60.45	73.54	. 2	3	738.66	222.95	32,
1461	12,180		5.26	5,725	15	11.58	84.31	188.34	144.47	30.40	23.85	6	204.72	59.50	61.30	2	3	336.64	91.19	28.
TOTALS	304,138	20.94	6.59	142,945	•••••		••••••		3,579	752	251	614	5,196							

# OPEN PIT

OPEN PIT BENCH ELEVATION	ORE TONNES	ORE CMS/TONNE	LOW CRADE WASTE TONNES	LOW CRADE WASTE CRAS/TONNE	ROCK WASTE TONNES	RUBBLE WASTE TONNES	TOTAL HASTE TOTHES	TONNES HI CRADE PER DAY	Tonnes Lou grade Per day	TONNES ROCK WASTE PER DAY	TONNES RUBBLE PER DAY	TOTAL DAYS OKE	TOTAL DAYS LOW GRADE	TOTAL DAYS WASTE	TOTAL DAYS RUBBLE
1543 1531 1525 1513 1507 1507 1501 1495 1483 1471 1471 1465 1459 1453 1441 1435 1423 1423 1423 1423 1387	380.16 3168.00 4278.78 7092.36 9240.66 10373.00 15515.00 20644.00 27883.00 2949.00 30686.00 22776.00 13230.03 13361.70 16268.34 6012.60	15.32 12.35 9.36 9.44 10.73 10.59 14.39 15.37 20.73 19.79 22.41 25.37 23.34	594.00 1480.05 1589.94 792.00 3890.70 6138.00 8490.24 10418.08 9220.86 7714.74 6490.77 10015.00 13738.00 13738.00 13738.00 1318.00 8988.87 3460.71 230.67	3.49 3.38 4.06 4.41 4.00 3.77 4.14 4.37 4.14	418 3,485 4,707 7,802 10,165 11,783 14,264 17,199 17,667 22,708 30,671 31,844 33,755 32,402 25,054 14,698 14,698 14,698 14,698 14,698 16,013	55, 54, 552, 6, 752, 6, 752, 6, 752, 6, 752, 752, 753, 754, 754, 754, 754, 754, 754, 754, 754	55 4,155 6,752 10,222 17,300 28,517 37,902 55,002 76,502 95,859 105,495 113,235 116,944 121,326 126,954 127,324 130,004 127,355 125,385 116,595 108,558 96,880 76,585 54,498 34,141 17,423	700 700 700 700 700 700 700 700 700 700	20	770 770 770 770 770 770 770 770 770 770	3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600 3,600	15 10 113 120 119 222 229 40 41 444 42 33 27 119 23	2 6 6 3 3 15 2 4 3 3 3 4 1 3 3 6 2 5 3 9 5 2 4 4 5 3 1 3 1 3 1 4 1 4 1 5 1 3 1 3 1 4 1 4 1 5 1 3 1 3 1 4 1 4 1 5 1 3 1 3 1 4 1 4 1 5 1 5 1 3 1 3 1 4 1 4 1 5 1 5 1 3 1 4 1 5 1 5 1 3 1 4 1 5 1 5 1 5 1 5 1 5 1 5 1 5 1 5 1 5	15 10 13 12 20 19 22 29 41 44 42 33 27 19 21	0 12 35 8 11 120 22 4 4 22 28 28 29 29 11 5 0 0
€mpats	321,252	********	118,241	4.20	351,149	*********	2,023,021					459	45Ý	456	464