

KITSAULT MINE (103P-6)

by S. J. Hunter

LOCATION

Lat. 55°28' (103P-6)
Long. 129°26'

Skeena Mining Division.

On the east side, at the head of Alice Arm, which is a side arm of Observatory Inlet. Elevation of the mine site is 600 meters. Access is by fixed wing aircraft over 130 kilometers north of Prince Rupert, or by boat and barge service from Vancouver.

CLAIMS

Forty nine leased claims and 119 located claims and 51 units. Key claims are nine leases - L.6467 to L.6475 covering the ore zone.

OWNER

Amax of Canada Limited,
Box 12525 - Oceanic Plaza,
1600 - 1066 West Hastings Street,
Vancouver, B.C. V6E 3X1.

METALS

Molybdenum.

DESCRIPTION

The ore zone is genetically related to the composite Lime Creek intrusive complex which intrudes Jurassic Bowser Lake Group graywacke and argillite units about 3 kilometers east of the Coast Range Crystalline Complex. The stock is surrounded by an aureole of biotite hornfels.

The Lime Creek complex is composed of at least five phases that form small stocks and related dykes. These intrusives have compositions that vary from quartz diorite to quartz monzonite. A swarm of lamprophyre dikes post dates the complex and mineralization.

Molybdenum mineralization occurs as disseminated grains in late magmatic aplites, and in three distinct ages of veining. The gross outline of the mineralized zone is annular in plan and extends over an area of 2,000 feet by 1,400 feet to the extremities.

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WORK DONE

Following acquisition of ownership by Amax of Canada Limited and subsequent diamond drilling and feasibility studies, the decision was made to bring the property to production at 12,000 tons per day by December, 1980. To that end in 1979, work proceeded in dismantling and expanding the former mill, erecting new pit shops, expanding B. C. Hydro power facility, enlarging the townsite, constructing a coarse ore storage facility, clearing and building 25 miles of access road from the Stikine River Valley, and starting construction of five miles of tailings line. The construction work force attained a total of 350 employees.

REFERENCES

Ministry of Mines - B. C. Annual Reports.
Department of Mines and Petroleum Resources Bulletins
Extracts from Mine Plans of Climax Molybdenum Corporation of
British Columbia Limited.