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GEOLOGY OF THE DRIFTPILE OCCURRENCE

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The Driftpile occurrence is located in northeast British Columbia within the Kechika Trough. The baritic lead-zinc bearing sedex mineralization occurs along the western edge of a northwesterly-trending, fault-bounded, 5 km wide belt of black shales and fine-grained clastic sedimentary rocks of Ordovician to Silurian Road River Group and Lower to Upper Devonian Lower Earn Group. All known base metal-bearing sedex occurrences in the Kechika Trough are located within this narrow belt.

Baritic sedex mineralization occurs at four stratigraphic levels within Devonian shales in the Driftpile Creek area although the best economic potential appears to be within the Frasnian age Main Zone. Studies of mineralogical variation demonstrate that zinc and lead grade distribution varies with gradational facies changes in the mineralization. "Distal" facies mineralization consists of thin, weakly pyritic, blebby (nodular) barite beds interlaminated with slightly siliceous argillite interbeds. True thickness increases from about 1 m over 20 m across a gradational change to "intermediate" facies mineralization. This is accompanied by an increase in pyrite content (up to 60%) as beds and disseminations, an increase in silica content and an increase in blebby barite content with respect to shale interbeds. This gives way abruptly to "proximal" facies mineralization where the dominant gangue is 1 to 2 cm thick interbeds of ferroan dolomite. Shale interbeds are infrequent and barium content is generally low.

Grade of "distal" facies mineralization increases from less than 0.5% Zn+Pb at the fringes of the deposit to about 1% Zn+Pb at the "intermediate" facies boundary. Across the "intermediate" facies, grades increase rapidly to greater than 7% Zn+Pb in the "proximal" zone.

The Driftpile Main Zone has been intersected in 17 holes over a 2.5 to 1.0 km area. Most of the near surface intersections are of the relatively low grade "distal" and "intermediate" facies while a few deeper intersections in the southwest area of the property cut "proximal" facies mineralization. The best of these assayed 11.8 % Pb+Zn over a 10.0 m true thickness.

Silver and copper content of all types of mineralization on the Driftpile Creek property is uniformly low.

Teck holds 2/3 of the property
Falconbridge 1/3