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April 1997 Monthly Report
for the
Northeast-Central Region
by

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MINES and MINE DEVELOPMENTS

Bullmoose. The Bullmoose mine, 61% owned by Teck Corporation, produced 1.92 million tonnes of clean metallurgical coal during 1996, a slight increase over the 1995 total of 1.86 million tonnes. Mining takes place from the South Fork pit, which has a mineable reserve of 10.9 million tonnes (sufficient until 2003). A 30-hole, 3000-metre drill program, to test for coal quality, was conducted within the active pit. The coal resource in the nearby West Fork deposit is an estimated 14.3 million tonnes and may be developed in the future.

Quintette. The Quintette coal mine, operated by Teck, produced 3.43 million tonnes of clean metallurgical coal in 1996, down from the 1995 total of 3.69 million tonnes. Clean coal reserves, of approximately 9 million tonnes, are contained in Mesa, Wolverine and Shikano pits. Shikano will be in operation for another year before its reserves are exhausted. Additional reserves are contained in the Mesa Extension and Babcock deposits. The Babcock mine plan was revised in 1996 and calls for far less land disturbance than originally proposed (1982) in order to extract coal reserves from the Little Windy and Big Windy pits. Little Windy Phase 1 development commenced in 1996 and is scheduled for completion in the fall of 1997. The current mineable reserves for the Babcock deposit are 11.5 million tonnes at a strip ratio of 8.8:1.

Baker. In 1996 Sable Resources produced 52 700 grams of gold, 498 860 grams of silver and 8.6 tonnes of copper, from the milling of 2338 tonnes of ore from the Multinational B orebody on the old Baker-Dupont mine in the Toodoggone. In 1997, the company plans to mine additional tonnage from this small open pit development, as well as reprocess approximately 2300 tonnes of tailings. A modest exploration program is also planned.

Mount Polley. Unofficial startup is set for June 1st. The official opening will probably take place in early August. Chris Wild (ex-Goldstream mine geologist) will be the mine geologist at Mount Polley. A 12-hole diamond drill program will get underway in 5-6 weeks time and will focus on the east margin of the Cariboo pit, near the proposed ramp.

Hannador. Gallery Resources plans to commence production at its placer gold property, east of Quesnel, in early May.

Kemess South. The interim injunction request from Tsay Keh Dene First Nation was denied. Construction continues. Approximately 70 to 80 kilometres of the powerline right-of-way have been cleared. Logging will resume after spring break-up (mid June?).