

CURRAGH RESOURCES INC

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

001381

FARO MINE SITE

DATE: November 8, 1991

TO: Leo Hwozdyk
Project Superintendent - Mine


FROM: Nick Rose
Underground Geologist^y - Fox Geological Consultants

SUBJECT: GROUNDFAIL - SN 353 ROOM

The collapse of ground in the SN 353 room between 12:00 P.M. November 3 and 8:30 A.M. November 4, can be attributed to the following factors:

1. The intersection of a high density of north trending faults "A" (See Fig. 1) with cross cutting structure "B" along the left side of the room (oriented 075/90°).
2. On layout, the overwidening of the room on the right side possibly exposed the 77° dipping structure "C" (051/77° W) over too great a length (approximately 60 feet over fault strike length). This structure, being bounded by vertical structures on either side and truncated by cross cutting structure "B" (075/90°), undoubtedly had a "wedging" effect on the back.
3. A "metabasite" clay seam (a 2-3 feet thick incompetent layer) at the ore-hanging wall contact contributed to and likely initiated the collapse.

Due to the irregularity of the "metabasite" clay material^{which} (often^{occurs} as seams within the ore horizon) and the unpredictability of its occurrence (though it often occurs at the hanging wall contact), this incompetent layer was not noticed until after the mining of this room was complete and ultimately the back head failed.



Recommendations to the design of this room would have been to narrow the right side of the room by 5 feet and thus not exposing structure "C" (052/77°W) to the full length of the room and drift, but supporting the ground between the two. Due to the incompetent metabasite seam above the approximate 3-4 feet of ore that was left in the back, it is quite possible that this failure may still have occurred.

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