

DWONK CLAIMSINTRODUCTION

The DWONK claim group is located along the Pelly River about 70 km. east of Ross River, Yukon (N.T.S. 105 G/14). The region surrounding the claims has subdued topography with a maximum relief of less than 90 m. (300 feet). Outcrop is limited largely to exposures along the Pelly River and associated smaller streams. Access to the area is by helicopter.

90 claims were staked in 1977 to cover two massive barite exposures within Devonian-Mississippian black shales of the Earn Group. Elsewhere in the Selwyn Basin area Earn Group shales contain stratiform Pb-Zn-Ag-barite deposits (MacMillan Pass, Driftpile, Cirque, Fluke, Elf). This type of deposit comprises the geological target for these claims.

HISTORY AND RESULTS

During the 1977 field season soil geochemical surveys were completed to outline any Cu, Pb, Zn mineralization associated with the barite outcrops. In 1978 magnetic and horizontal loop electromagnetic ground surveys were conducted on a grid covering the barite outcrops. In all cases results from the surveys were inconclusive, and further work was recommended.

In 1980, a combined geologic mapping and diamond drilling program was conducted. Five holes for a total depth of 1154.4 metres were completed. A small silt geochemical sampling program was conducted along the Pelly River on the eastern portion of the claims group (Cu, Pb, Zn, Ba.) An IP survey was also completed along one extended line to test the feasibility of using IP to differentiate between different lithologies on the claims.

Property mapping in 1980 showed that the two barite outcrops are contained within the same Earn Group stratigraphy and therefore represent the same stratigraphic horizon. None of the five drillholes intersected the downdip extension of the barite horizon. Lack of success in locating the appropriate stratigraphy was attributed to fault complications along steep normal faults trending 007⁰.

The 1980 silt geochemistry program along the Pelly River was conducted to see if the faulted barite horizon could be detected geochemically. None of the samples collected were anomalous. The one IP line was conducted along L110E over a total distance of 2,865 metres. The resulting survey also in inconclusive; the IP line apparently crosses a normal fault at a very acute angle. As a result the dominant feature in the survey is an extensive zone of low chargeability and low apparent resistivity corresponding to the fault zone.

As a result of the 1980 drilling season, the Gonzo claims (24 units) were staked to cover the presumed offset of the favourable baritic horizon to the southeast along late normal faults. These claims were allowed to lapse in 1981.

EVALUATION

DWONK has consistently been a difficult (and expensive) property to evaluate successfully. Outcrop is minimal, making geologic mapping difficult. Geochemistry is not useful because of the extensive alluvial cover. EM methods are impractical because of the large carbon and disseminated pyrite content of the surrounding Earn Group shales. Gravity also presents problems because of extreme thickness variations in the alluvium on the claims.

The 1980 drilling and geologic mapping program showed that late normal faults have progressively displaced units with a total apparent displacement of 2,440 metres (right-lateral). Three of the 1980 drillholes

References

Pigage, L. 1981. Geological and drilling report, DWONK claim claim group. Cyprus Anvil Mining Corporation internal report, 60 p.

Roberts, W. 1978. Geological, geochemical and geophysical report on the DWONK group. Cyprus Anvil Mining Corporation internal report, 13 p.

were apparently collared in the footwall of the favourable baritic horizon because of difficulties in recognizing and locating the normal faults in the field.

Earn Group in Selwyn Basin is known to contain several baritic horizons which are barren of Pb-Zn mineralization. Barite outcrops on the DWONK do contain minor associated pyrite but still do not have any Pb-Zn geochemical anomaly associated with them. In contrast, the distal baritic facies in the Gataga and Macmillan Districts contain a significant geochemical signature for a distance of kilometres away from the mineral deposits.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In view of the fact that geophysical and geochemical surveys do not provide a feasible method for locating the baritic horizon, a blind drilling program remains the only means of testing the economic potential of the DWONK claims. Since the barite outcrops on DWONK are not geochemically anomalous (despite the slight pyrite content), this expensive drilling program is not warranted.

Therefore, the DWONK claims should be allowed to lapse.