PROVINCE OR

R.

PROVINCE OU

British Columbia

# OWNER OR OPERATOR/PROPRIÉTAIRE OU EXPLOITANT

ZINC

PRODUCT

Sect.

### DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT/DESCRIPTION DU GISEMENT

The Cirque deposit is contained within a thrust panel of Devonian sediments of the Gunsteel Formation. Stratiform massive barite overlies ribbon-banded black graphitic chert and shale and is overlain by thick-bedded pyritic siliceous argillite. Shallow drilling in 1978 encountered a relatively low-grade deposit ranging from 3 to 25 m in thickness. Deeper drilling in 1979 revealed a rapid increase in grade and a general thickening down-dip into a tabular body about 60 m thick. Mineralization typically consists of galena, sphalerite and minor pyrite disseminated in fine-grained, thin- to medium-bedded grey barite with minor shale interbeds.

# HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT HISTORIQUE DE L'EXPLORATION ET DE LA MISE EN VALEUR

N.T.S. AREA

RÉGION DU S.N.R.C.

94 F/11

REF. ZN 1

RÉF.

The property is located near the headwaters of the Paul River, between the Kwadacha and Akie Rivers, some 40 miles north-northwest of the north end of Williston Lake.

A joint venture regional exploration program of geochemistry and geological mapping by Cyprus Anvil Mining Corporation (50%) and Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas Company Limited (50%) led to the staking of the Cirque 1-14 claims (approximately 155 units) in July 1977; the discovery was a visual find in the course of geochemical surveys. Electromagnetic and geochemical soil and silt surveys (1,950 samples) in 1978 outlined a coincident lead-zinc soil anomaly over 2 km in length. Diamond drilling in 1978-79 totalled 8 848 metres in 30 holes. Further drilling in 1980 increased drill indicated reserves to 33,000,000 tons at 2.2% lead, 7.8% zinc, 1.5 oz/t silver, with an additional geologic reserve of 7 million tons (Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas, 1980 Annual Report). Drilling in 1981 confirmed a 40 million tonne deposit (Financial Post, Nov. 14, 1981). An 80 km access road from Williston Lake was completed in 1981.

In July-August 1981 Hudson's Bay purchased a 100% interest in Cyprus Anvil Mining Corporation. Dome Petroleum Limited during 1981-82 purchased a 100% interest in Hudson's Bay and simultaneously sold about 34% of this interest to associates Dome Canada Limited, Trans Canada Pipelines Limited and Dow Chemical Canada Inc. in effect making Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas Company Limited an indirectly wholly owned subsidiary of Dome Petroleum Limited.

Surface drilling on the deposit was completed in 1982 but plans for underground exploration were postponed indefinitely.

In 1985, Curragh Resources Inc. purchased the deposit. Trans Canada Pipeline were a minority partner. In 1989, Asturia de Zinc, S.A. purchased 15% interest. A decline was driven in 1989 and bulk testing was started.

# MAP REFERENCES/RÉFÉRENCES CARTOGRAPHIQUES

Map 207 A, Finlay River Area, (Geol.), Sc. 1":8 miles - accomp. Summary Report 1927, Pt. A., Geol. Surv. of Canada.

Map 94 F W, Toodoggone & Ware, Sc. 1:250,000, Geol. Surv. of Canada, Open File 483, 1977.

#Geology of the Akie River district, Figs. 17 and 20, Geological Fieldwork 1979, British Columbia Dept. of Mines.

\*Map 94 F. Ware, (Topo.), Sc. 1:250,000.

## REMARKS/REMARQUES

Comp./Rev. By Comp./rév. par	DMacR	JL			
Date Date	08-83	10-90		 	L

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