

NAME OF PROPERTY

McNEIL

OBJECT LOCATED—McNeil workings, south edge of Lot 223.

UNCERTAINTY IN METRES 100. Lat. 54°38'17" Long. 127°07'50"

Mining Division Omineca District Range 5 Coast

County Township or Parish

Lot Concession or Range

Sec Tp. R.

OWNER OR OPERATOR AND ADDRESS

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT

The Telkwa coalfield comprises a relatively small area underlain by sediments which are considered to be part of the Bowser Group of Late Jurassic and Early Cretaceous age. This thin-bedded, lenticular, sedimentary series consists of interbedded mudstones, sandstones, and coal seams. These rocks are faulted, partially eroded, and to a considerable extent overlain by glacial material so that bedrock is not well exposed. Most of the beds dip at low to moderate angles to the northwest, but locally they diverge considerably from that attitude. A number of dykes intrude these rocks. Coal seams range up to 14 feet and possibly more in thickness. MacKay (1946) classifies the Telkwa field coal as high-grade high-volatile "A" bituminous, having a calorific value of 13,160 B.T.U. per pound.

According to Dickson (1941) two samples tested in 1926, presumably from the McNeil mine, had good coking qualities. An approximate analysis of the coal gave the following: Moisture, 0.80%; volatile combustible matter, 28.20%; fixed carbon, 62.60%; ash, 8.40%; sulphur, 1.80%.

Associated minerals or products of value

HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The property covers the lower ends of Tenas (Mud) and Goathorn (Goat) Creeks, 5 miles southwest of Telkwa. In 1926 the property consisted of 4 lots, Nos. 222, 223, 224, and 226, each 1 square mile in area. The main workings were at the south edge of lot 223.

The Grand Trunk B.C. Coal Company, Limited, incorporated February 1910, acquired ground on the Telkwa river and on Mud and Coat creeks. Exploration work in 1910 included 2 short adits on Mud creek, and an attempt to drive a slope adit on a 9 foot seam on Goat creek. Preparations for diamond drilling were reported.

In 1917 J. Ashman became aware that some sections of land in this area were vacant, and these were acquired for a syndicate of Prince Rupert and Telkwa interests. An exploration adit was driven on a coal seam on Mud creek during the winter of 1917-18, and coal shipments began in the fall of 1918. The syndicate members incorporated Telkwa Collieries, Limited, in December 1918. Seasonal operations were carried on through 1919. In 1920 the property was leased to J.M. Gillespie, who had managed the operations for the company, and the mine operated for 5 months of the year. The mine was idle in 1921, but the lessee resumed work in the latter part of 1922 when a new adit was driven higher up Mud creek.

In 1923 Jack McNeil, one of the members that formed the company, acquired a working agreement to operate the property. Mining operations were begun in a new adit on Goat Creek. The mine operated each year, except during the summer months, until March 1930 when the workings were abandoned. The company charter was surrendered in 1932. Restoration of the charter was applied for in 1934 but no further activity was reported.

120221

Mineral Development Sector, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, Ottawa

ISTORY OF PRODUCTION

During the period 1918-1930, approximately 13,000 long tons (2,240 lbs.) of coal were shipped from this property.

REFERENCES

- Black, J.M.; Report on Goat Creek Coal Area; Report of Minister of Mines, British Columbia, 1951, pp. 291-297.
- Reports of Minister of Mines, British Columbia: 1918, pp. 124, 435; 1919, p. 331; 1920, pp. 91, 306; 1921, p. 309; 1922, pp. 111, 317; 1923, pp. 120, 343; 1924, pp. 99, 331; 1925, pp. 145, 397; 1926, pp. 158, 159, 401; 1927, p. 435; 1928, pp. 185, 471; 1929, pp. 187, 477; 1930, pp. 154, 408.
- Leach, W.W.; Skeena River District; Summary Report 1910, p. 98, Geol. Surv. of Canada.
- Report of the Royal Commission on Coal, Ottawa, 1946, pp. 47, 636.
- Analyses of British Columbia Coals, Bulletin No. 14, p. 16, British Columbia Dept. of Mines, 1948, compiled by James Dickson.

MAP REFERENCES

- Goat Creek Coal Area, Sc. 1":800 ft., Fig. 20 - accomp. Report by J.M. Black.
- *Telkwa Collieries Ltd., Plan of workings, Sc. 1":100 ft., Report of Minister of Mines, British Columbia, 1926, p. 158.
- Preliminary Map 44-23, Smithers, (Geol.), Sc. 1":2 miles, Paper 44-23, Geol. Surv. of Canada.
- Map 5310 G, Telkwa, (Aeromag.), Sc. 1":1 mile.
- Map 93 L/11 E, Telkwa, (Topo.), Sc. 1:50,000.

REMARKS

Comp./Rev. By	DMacR						
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