
STATEMENT CONCERNING
THE PIONEER EXTENSION, BEN HARRISON,
AND JOHN RUSSELL GROUP OF CLAIMS.

By
W. I. Holmes

1935
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Report furnished by W. I. Holmes

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LOCATION:

Located in Morris Mining District, Clear Creek County, Colo. In S/W corner of Section 18. T. 5 So., Range 73 West. This property is 2-14 miles from the nearest R.R. Station (by County Road) which is Dumont, also the same distance from U. S. Highway No. 40 which passes through Dumont.

HISTORY:

This group of claims has been in one family since its original discovery and patenting in 1862 and is now under the management of and is being worked by Mr. La Munyon, brother-in-law to the original owner of the group. This property has been worked for years by Mr. La Munyon, who has worked alone, using such crude methods as hand drilling and wheelbarrows to remove the broken rock. He has worked this claim at times alternating with other claims which are located close to Dumont. All work to date has been developing.

EXISTING DEVELOPMENT:

Gold and silver are the metals to be produced.

The ore occurs in a true fissure vein and is confined to ore shoots. The shoots are sometimes as long as two hundred feet and three to five hundred feet deep. A majority of the ore will be sent directly to the smelter as this is the type expected to be encountered rather than milling ore. It is believed the majority of the ore will be of the chalcopyrite-pyrite type; altho galena will be probably also be found, as they are found in the main Pioneer Lead.

The shoots generally occur at the junction of veins and the richest ores are usually found at these junctions.

Assay reports are not available.

This property will be worked by tunnel. The present tunnel when continued will develop the entire property.

The Pioneer Extension Claim which is the main working point is developed by a two-hundred cross-cut tunnel which is on the vein at this time, also has a seventy foot shaft proving the vein.

The Ben Harrison Claim has two small tunnels and surface trenches.

The John Russel has a forty foot shaft with some surface open cuts, which are generally filled with wash material.

PRESENT WORK:

There are no mining operations being conducted at this time. The work now in progress consists of cleaning a cave-in at the portal.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT:

It is proposed to extend the present tunnel for a distance along the vein of approximately thirty feet to a point forming a junction with the Pioneer Extension Vein. It is proposed to work along the vein to an intersection with the Ben Harrison Claim. It is then proposed to drive on the Ben Harrison Claim under the large ore shoot open and exposed on the surface to the junction of the Ben Harrison Claim and the John Russell Claim. Total drifting along the Pioneer Extension and Ben Harrison Veins will be 800 feet. At the surface the vein varies from two to three feet in width at this point and it is believed that the ore will widen as depth is gained. This theory is considered due to the showing and shape of the ore on the surface. The value of the ore would only be a guess but it is believed that due to the large amount of copper found in the outcrop that the ore will be rich in gold values.

The cost of mining the ore or any other ores in this group is estimated at \$2.00 per ton maximum. Haulage to the mill will be 35¢ per ton, and the milling itself will run around \$2.00 per ton. Shipping concentrates to Leadville will cost \$5.00 per ton and Smelting ores from the mine to Leadville will not cost over \$6.00 per ton.

There has been no recent production of ore. The work has consisted of hand drilling in a cross cut to cut the Pioneer Extension and it is only recently that the vein followed in this cross cut has been mineralized and it is believed about 20 feet will complete the cross cut to the junction.

It is hoped to mine from 10 to 20 tons of shipping ore per day.

There will be no water problems as this project will be a tunnel development.

MARKETING OF PRODUCT:

The ores produced will be sent direct to the smelter or will be milled and then sent direct to the American Smelting & Refining Co's plant at Leadville, Colorado.

Smelting charges will vary from \$2.50 to \$6.00 per ton and depends on the type of metals contained, the amount of silica, and the percentage of moisture, etc.

Milling will be carried on at Dumont in a custom mill at a cost of \$2.00 per ton.

WATER SUPPLY:

Water for all general purposes is available. The water is drainage water from the tunnel, which is constant the year around. Drinking water may be had from a spring.

POWER:

It is proposed to use power furnished from a gasoline engine to be installed on the project. The only power needed will be for the compressor and possibly ventilating fan etc.

COST:

The mining cost per ton should not exceed \$2.00 per ton, including all cost. Where large ore shoots are encountered, as expected, this cost should be reduced materially.

Milling ore can be milled at a custom mill at Dumont for \$2.00 per ton. The ore can be hauled to the mill for 35¢ per ton under contract. The concentrates or shipping ore can be hauled to Leadville for \$5.00 per ton. The smelting charges will vary from \$2.50 to \$6.00 per ton, depending upon the grade of ore and analysis etc.

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