

**Second Annual Report on Exploration Activities**  
**Exploration Licence 19/99 Miners Ridge**  
**Maiden Meadows Pastoral Pty Ltd**  
**January 2002**

Compiled by M.E.Gardner

## **Abstract**

Exploration activities in EL 19/99 during the second year of tenure have consisted solely of the drilling of two diamond drill holes in the southern portion of the licence area near the old Harris Reward workings. Neither hole intersected mineralisation of economic interest.

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Report on two diamond drill holes on EL 19/99, Miners Ridge, 2001. Geoff Iliff & Associates	

## **Introduction**

EL 19/99 Miners Ridge was granted to Maiden Meadows Pastoral Pty Ltd on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2000 for a period of five years. The licence covers an area of 46 sq km in the Queenstown area of western Tasmania, with the principal area of interest being the extension of the Mount Read Volcanics south of the Mount Lyell mine and other old workings in that vicinity.

This report describes the work undertaken in the area during the second year of tenure from 21 January 2001 to 20 January 2002.

During the first year of tenure the licence holders employed Birdman Geology Pty Ltd (David Geary) to undertake the exploration work in this area. However this arrangement ceased during the second year, resulting in a hiatus in exploration activity. Two diamond drill holes were completed at sites selected by Geary, but the drilling was unsupervised and the core not logged until the present author was requested to take over management of the program in September 2001.

## **Review of Previous Work**

During the first year of tenure a considerable amount of literature research was undertaken in reviewing the reports and results of previous explorers in this area, available on open file at MRT. As a result of this study two types of exploration target were identified

- Cu or Cu-Au mineralisation on the flanks of distinct magnetic features in the Central Volcanic Complex, as perceived at Mt Lyell.
- Fine gold in volcanoclastic sediments.

Contact was also made with Hydro Tasmania to investigate the rumours of significant mineralisation encountered in the surge and/or headrace tunnels between Lake Burbury and the Power Station on the King River. Examination of various geotechnical reports and drill logs failed to substantiate the presence of mineralisation within the tunnels where they pass through the licence area.

The report on exploration activity in the first year of tenure (Geary, 2000) describes some limited reconnaissance geological mapping and geochemical soil sampling in the vicinity of the Harris Reward workings. Unfortunately no record of the mapping can be found, or of the individual geochemical sample sites.

## **Exploration Completed during the Reporting Period**

The only exploration work undertaken during the second year of tenure were two diamond drill holes (MR1 and MR2) completed in July 2000. These holes were drilled by Almac Drilling Pty Ltd, and the core is stored temporarily at their premises at Zeehan.

Appendix 1 is a report from Geoff Iliff and Associates containing the drill logs and a discussion of the results.

Hole collars were surveyed using GPS by West Coast Mining and Engineering Surveys, and the AMG collar coordinates are given in the hole logs.

Analyses were undertaken by Analabs in Burnie.

## **Conclusions**

The two drill holes were disappointing, not just because they failed to intersect significant sulphide mineralisation, but also because target selection was not the result of a properly structured exploration program involving a mix of detailed geological, geophysical and geochemical surveys on the ground. While the geological concepts employed may be sound, these should have been tested more thoroughly before going to the expense of drilling. This is a highly prospective area, and deserving of more detailed examination involving ground exploration before further consideration is given to more drilling.

## **Environment**

Some environmental disturbance was involved in the development of access to the drilling sites. Consultation with MRT resulted in an agreed approach to this work, but the use of a larger drill than originally planned by the drilling contractor, and a lack of supervision by the geological contractor, resulted in a greater degree of disturbance than originally agreed.

The sites and access have now been rehabilitated to the satisfaction of MRT by pulling back the peat/topsoil cover and placing tea-tree slash where appropriate to accelerate revegetation of the areas.

## **Expenditure**

Expenditure on exploration in EL 19/99 for the year under review was \$74,219.

## **References**

Geary 2000      First Annual Report on Exploration Activities,  
EL 19/99 Miners Ridge.

## **Keywords**

Mt Read Volcanics, diamond drilling, copper, gold.

## **Appendix 1**