

4. CUTTY SARK (F. G. FitzGerald)

4.1. Introduction

Clasts of massive sulphide, exposed by the Hydro Electric Commission during construction of a road cutting near the Bastyan Dam within EL 1/62, were inspected at the end of August, 1983. This coarse, agglomeratic outcrop was inundated by the newly formed Lake Rosebery soon afterwards. Preliminary geological mapping and sampling by GODC and a review of existing EZ Company exploration data, highlighted the mineral potential of the prospect area, which lies only 3km along strike to the north of the Rosebery deposit. A detailed exploration program was initiated, leading to the completion of two diamond drill holes by May, 1984.

4.2. Previous Exploration

Numerous old prospects and workings are known within the area, the most prominent being the Cutty Sark group, where pits, trenches and two adits up to 100m long occur. Much of this activity was focused on disseminated and vein chalcopyrite mineralization within a generally massive andesitic sequence. However, galena and sphalerite mineralization was reported from several old sections to the west of these occurrences. Old records suggest that there was little, if any, production from any of these workings.

The Chester massive sulphide deposit lies 2.5km along strike to the north of the Cutty Sark area. Modern exploration by Rio Tinto Australia, Comstaff Pty. Ltd. and the Tasmanian Mines Department has indicated a resource of 2.8 million tonnes of 20% sulphur as massive pyrite. However, one of the Comstaff exploration holes, CP3, intersected 2.4m of 22.3% Zn, 5.2% Pb, 65 g/t Ag and 8.5 g/t Au approximately 600m south of the main deposit. The area is currently held by Comstaff as part of EL 5/63.

The EZ Company carried out sporadic exploration over the Cutty Sark area of EL 1/62 between 1970 and 1983. Their activity