

SECTION II: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

ELECTROMAGNETICS

DIGHEM electromagnetic responses fall into two general classes, discrete and broad. The discrete class consists of sharp, well-defined anomalies from discrete conductors such as sulfide lenses and steeply dipping sheets of graphite and sulfides. The broad class consists of wide anomalies from conductors having a large horizontal surface such as flatly dipping graphite or sulfide sheets, saline water-saturated sedimentary formations, conductive overburden and rock, and geothermal zones. A vertical conductive slab with a width of 200 m would straddle these two classes.

The vertical sheet (half plane) is the most common model used for the analysis of discrete conductors. All anomalies plotted on the electromagnetic map are analyzed according to this model. The following section entitled Discrete conductor analysis describes this model in detail, including the effect of using it on anomalies caused by broad conductors such as conductive overburden.

The conductive earth (half space) model is suitable for broad conductors. Resistivity contour maps result from the