

163009

MINE DEVELOPMENT

In the period since the last review the Main Decline has advanced to the -280 metre R.L. mostly in granite, but encountering 30 metres of banded footwall beds, the Central Fault and 5 metres of pyroxene garnet hornfels in the Southern Orebody area. Ground conditions in the granite were excellent, no support was required.

The main development effort has been in the Lower Wedge area where strike drives have been established on the -200, -220 and -260 metre levels. Cross cuts into the orebody have been developed at 14 metres centres on all these levels and also on the previously developed -240 metre level. Ground conditions have been poor in the areas mined in footwall beds. Well developed jointing in the upper orebody made the use of grout bolting necessary. A major rock fall occurred in pyroxene garnet hornfels (mineralised) in W62 on the -200 metre level where a 20 metre span along strike was exposed for a short period (about four weeks) and was not fully bolted.

The P11 Mid Wedge access was completed in moderately poor ground, and the O13 access to the 3rd lift was completed, all of the northerly development was set in anticipation of deteriorating ground conditions as stoping progressed over the drive.

Access to the Pit Dag and Southern Orebody was achieved via the M9 which required setting for about 25 metres. The remaining 90 metres were in reasonable ground.

150 metres were mined to complete the N13 accesses to the Lower Pit. Most of the metreage was in B Lens which although initially supported by rockbolts has recently given trouble by rock falls that have broken back to the B Lens hangingwall.

A new access, the H16 is in use for the Upper Pit. This was developed 190 metres in banded footwall beds and quartzites. It services the 15th and all subsequent lifts.