

Lower Pit

The 5th lift is currently being mined in this stope which has been a good tonnage source and has a mining grade slightly above the current reserve grade. The principal change in the structure is the Booby Fault splaying off from the Wedge Fault and creating a small (20 metre wide) downfaulted block. The block at this level is mostly high grade garnet hornfels and therefore allows a higher percentage of garnet hornfels to be mined each lift.

The Booby Fault cuts the Swan Fault and contributes to the complicated nature of this and its associated faults. Refer cross section 220 240E. Although the Swan Fault normally has a southerly dip, it changes to a steep northerly dip as it approaches the Wedge Fault from the west.

One feature of this area which has only recently become apparent is the presence of sizeable areas (of the order of metres) of barren banded footwall beds in the lower orebody. This is having a two fold effect, firstly in reducing the ore tonnage available and secondly by increasing dilution, as it is not possible to clearly separate ore and waste faces within the post pillar pattern.