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Report on Maintenance
Timoni Gold Mine

by

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DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY AND SHIPPING.

MINERAL RESOURCES SURVEY.

REPORT ON MAINTENANCE

TIMONI GOLD MINE.

Report No. 1945/43.

Owner - Goldfields Australian Development Co. Ltd.

Situation - Mt. Ida, 76 miles by road North-Northwest of Menzies which is 81 miles northerly from Kalgoorlie by rail..

Representative - W. B. Mundle, General Manager, Goldfields Australian Development Co. Ltd., 39 Boulder Road, Kalgoorlie.

Maintenance commenced - January, 1944.

Average amount per calendar month - (6 months to March 31st, 1945)
£296.10.0.

Men employed on maintenance -

One Supervisor at £50 per month who is responsible for operations and general repair work connected with unwatering and mine maintenance.

One Winding Engine Driver at £36.16.8 per month.

One Diesel Engine Driver-Pitter at £37.18.8. per month.

One General Hand at £31.8.0. per month, to assist Supervisor in case of breakdown underground.

One Truck Driver at £34.13.4. per month (part-time).

Expenses per month - (Average for quarter ending March 31st, 1945).

Wages, Salaries and Holiday Pay.. .. .	£174. 3. 4.
Stores and Sundries	59. 2. 7.
Mine Workers' Relief Fund	13. 9.
Pay Roll Tax.. .. .	2.11. 7.
State Government Insurance.. .. .	12.10. 0.
Fire, Cyclone, Wind Storm, Motor Vehicle and Third Party Insurance Licences.. .. .	11. 5.11. X
Administration	16.13. 4. X
TOTAL.. .. .	£277. 0. 6.

X have been disallowed on the recently revised schedule of maintenance.

Usual number of men employed - 28 to 40 men were previously employed, and probably 50 will be needed to resume operations at full scale.

Ore reserves - 10,000 tons above No. 3 level, averaging 7 dwts. gold per ton (including 2,000 tons broken ore averaging 5.5 dwts. per ton). Also 25,000 tons of tailings averaging 2.75 dwts. per ton. Estimated reserves below bottom level at lease 250 tons per vertical foot, probable grade 10 dwts. per ton, and capacity of plant 1,200 to 1,500 tons of ore per month.

Plant - 2 Diesel Engines, Generator, Two Compressors, smaller engine, Ore Crusher, Ballmill, Strakes, Classifiers, Amalgamating Barrel, Blacksmith's and tool sharpening shop, store, change houses, Manager's residence, boarding house, 7 galvanised iron huts.

Mine - The lowest level is No. 3, 298 feet vertical depth.

The better grade ore is mostly worked out above No. 3 level. The total ore mined from the lease is estimated to be 35,927 tons

for a production of 27,131 ounces, an average recovery value of 15.1 dwts. per ton.

The tonnage mined by the present company to November 2nd, 1944, was 19,186 tons for a recovery of 9,557.5 ounces, equal to 10 dwts. gold per ton. The tailings produced in this period, which average 2 dwts. gold per ton, contained an additional 2,040 ounces of gold. The average width of the ore mined was 4'6". Dimensions of ore on the bottom level are 970 feet long, 51 inches wide, average grade 11 dwt. gold per ton. The prospects of ore below the bottom level must be considered excellent.

Two winzes below No. 3 level average 10.4 and 13.5 dwts. gold per ton respectively.

Another level will have to be driven and slopes prepared before production can be resumed at full scale.

The total expenditure on the property to October, 5th 1943 was \$116,923, and the revenue from the sale of bullion \$91,866.

Requirements for essential maintenance - Water has to be kept out of the mine. The reasons given by the Manager are -

1. Structural weaknesses on the stope walls may cause collapses if wet.
2. If not bailed out the water will be dammed back into pocketed reservoirs which caused trouble in the original sinking.
3. If labour is available the Company is anxious to proceed with sinking of the main shaft and development of the No. 4 level. Men are already on the mine doing preliminary work towards this end.

A certain amount of maintenance is also required on the plant, buildings, and the working machinery. The shaft has to be regularly inspected and the pumps kept in repair.

Present maintenance programme - The mine makes approximately 15,000 gallons of water per day, and water is kept down by bailing for almost one complete shift, three times a week, requiring a diesel engine hand and winder driver. The engines are kept in working order and any necessary repairs are carried out. Buildings are repaired where necessary. Stores have to be obtained from Menzies or Kalgoorlie by truck, and firewood and water carted. It is considered, however, that the present charge against maintenance of four men full-time and a truck driver part-time is excessive.

Recommendations - Maintenance should be reduced to two men full-time (winder driver and diesel driver) and a truck driver part-time so long as the Company is carrying out other work at the mine. If the development crew are withdrawn, it is considered that in view of the isolated position of the mine that it would be reasonable to allow the wages of three men full-time as a charge against maintenance. The running and maintenance charges of one motor truck should be allowed.

Date..... (Commonwealth Geologist).

Date..... (District Inspector of Mines).