

GLOSSARY

Acanthite	Silver sulphide mineral (Ag_2S)
Adit	Tunnel excavated to access underground or for exploration purposes
Ag	Silver
Agglomerate	A breccia or conglomerate formed during volcanic activity
Alluvial fan	Unconsolidated terrestrial sediment composed of sorted or unsorted sand, gravel, and clay that has been deposited by water
Alumite	Hydrous potassium aluminium sulphate
Andesite	Igneous rock with 52% to 66% silica
Anticline	A fold or fold system in geological strata in the form of an arch.
Argentiferous	Containing silver
Argillic alteration	A type of wall rock alteration forming clay minerals in a host rock containing mineralisation
Arsenopyrite	An iron arsenic sulphide, FeAsS
Artisanal workings	Small scale mine workings excavated by local miners using mainly manual methods
As	Arsenic
Au	Gold
Azurite	An azure blue copper carbonate mineral often associated with other oxidised copper minerals and in copper ores
Ba	Barium
Basalt	A fine grained, sometimes glassy basic igneous rock
Base metal	A mining industry term for copper, lead, tin or zinc
Biotite mica	A dark coloured sheet silicate mineral
Bornite	A purplish-brown copper-iron sulphide mineral often associated with other oxidised copper minerals and in copper ores
Breccia/Brecciated	A clastic rock composed of particles more than 2 millimetres in diameter and marked by the angularity of its component grains and rock fragments
Ca	Calcium
Calcite	Calcium carbonate mineral, common in altered basic igneous rocks and veins.
Calcareous	Refers to materials containing significant amounts of calcium carbonate
Caldera	A very large crater which may arise by the coalescence of several small craters, repeated explosion, collapse, or the stopping of surface rocks by a large underground magma chamber
Chalcedony	A micro crystalline form of silica
Chalcocite	A black/lead grey copper sulphide mineral
Chalcopyrite	A bright brass-yellow tetragonal sulphide mineral CuFeS_2 ,
Chlorite	A platy hydrous silicate related to mica

Chrysocolla	A hydrated copper silicate found in the oxidised zones of copper deposits
Clastic rocks	Rocks built up of fragments of pre-existing rocks which have been produced by the processes of weathering and erosion, and in general transported to a point of deposition
Co	Cobalt
Conglomerate	Sedimentary rock with rounded or sub-rounded fragments of rock within a finer matrix
Covellite	An indigo-blue copper sulphide mineral often found in zones of secondary enrichment in copper
Cretaceous	A geological stratigraphic period of approximately 72 million years in duration, running between 136 and 64 million years ago
Cu	Copper
Cu-Ni sulphide	A sulphide of copper and nickel
Cuprite	Copper oxide mineral often found in weathering zones of copper deposits
Dacite	A fine-grained acid volcanic rock
Dextral	The apparent movement of a fault block to the right along the fault relative to the other side
Diamond drilling (DD)	Drilling method that obtains a cylindrical core of rock by drilling with an annular bit impregnated with diamonds
Digenite	A copper-iron sulphide mineral
Dip	The angle formed by the inclined plane of a geological structure and the horizontal plane of the Earth's surface
Drill core	Rock samples recovered by diamond drilling
Dyke	A sheet like body of igneous rock which cuts across the bedding or structural planes of the host rock
Epithermal	Low temperature (100-200°C) hydrothermal processes
Fault	A fracture in rock along which there has been an observable amount of displacement
Fe	Iron
Ferruginous	Containing iron
Flotation mill	Processing plant that concentrates economic mineral by flotation
g/t	Grammes per tonne
Galena	Lead sulphide
Geochemical	The study of abundance of chemical elements in overburden or rock
Graben	A downthrown block between two parallel faults
Greywackes	Arenaceous rocks composed of fine to coarse rock fragments.
Haematite	An oxide of iron, and one of that metal's most common ore minerals Hg
Mercury	
Hydrothermal processes	

The name given to any processes associated with igneous activity which involve heated or superheated water

Ignimbrite (Welded tuff)

A pyroclastic rock consisting of layers of tuff material in which the edges of fragments have welded together due to the high temperature at the time of deposition

Jarosite

A hydrous sulphate of iron and potash

Limonite

The omnibus term used for a range of mixtures of hydrated iron oxides and iron hydroxides

Malachite

A bright green copper carbonate mineral occurring in oxidised zones of copper deposits and copper ores

Mafic

Descriptive of rocks composed predominantly of magnesium and iron rock-forming silicates

Metamorphic grade

Degree of alteration due to conditions of high pressure, temperature and / or chemically active fluid

Mica

Platy silicate minerals (phyllosilicates)

Mineralisation

This term is used almost exclusively for the introduction of ore minerals and gangue minerals into pre-existing rocks whether by veins, replacement, or in a disseminated fashion.

Mn

Manganese

Mo

Molybdenum

Multi-episodic

Occurring over several episodes

Ni

Nickel

Oolite

Limestone made of small spherical rock particles that have grown around nuclei

Open pit

A mine working or excavation open to the surface

Ordovician

The geological period between 500 and 435 million years ago, a duration of 65 million years

Ore

Material which can be mined and/or treated as a profit

Orogeny

A period of mountain building

Orogenesis

The process of mountain building

Outcrop

A rock exposure

Oxidised

Decomposition near surface by exposure to the atmosphere and water

Pb

Lead

Pleistocene

A geological epoch in the Quaternary Period from 1.65 to 0.01 million years before present

Pliocene

Final epoch of the Tertiary period spanning the time between 5.3 and 1.8 million years ago

Porphyry

Term applied to medium-grained rocks containing phenocrysts of any mineral (strictly alkali feldspar phenocrysts)

Porphyry copper	A large low-grade stockwork to disseminated deposits of copper which may also contain minor molybdenum gold and silver commonly in a granitic host rock
Porphyritic	An igneous rock texture in which relatively large crystals are set in a finer-grained matrix
ppb	Parts per billion
Precambrian	That period of time from the consolidation of the Earth's crust to the base of the Cambrian some 570 million years ago
Prophyllitic alteration	The hydrothermal alteration of a fine-grained igneous rock to a mass of secondary minerals such as chlorite, epidote, quartz, carbonates and sub-micas such as sericite
Pyrite	The most widespread iron sulphide mineral. An accessory mineral found/produced in igneous rocks; in ore veins; by contact metamorphism; in anaerobic sediments and magmatic segregation
Pyrrhotite	A magnetic iron sulphide mineral found in basic igneous rocks, pegmatites and contact metamorphic deposits
Quartz	Silicon dioxide mineral found in acidic igneous rocks, many metamorphic rocks and sedimentary rocks
Quartzite	Rock composed of interlocking quartz grains usually formed by the metamorphism of arenaceous rocks
Resource	An identified in situ mineral occurrence which excludes "Pre-Resource" mineralisation, from which valuable or useful minerals may be recovered. A resource may be reported as: an inferred resource; an indicated resource; or a measured resource
Reverse Circulation (RC) Drilling	Commonly percussive drilling method in which cuttings are raised to surface by a stream of compressed air inside the drill rods
Rhyolite	Fine grained to glassy acid mineral rocks
Satellite imagery	Images of the earth's surface recorded by satellites. Often data is recorded at differing wavelengths in order to enable studies of the differing spectral response of different parts of the landscape
S	Sulphur
Sb	Antimony
Sedimentary units	Pertaining to rocks formed from particles of rock or minerals deposited from suspension in water, wind or ice
Sericite	An alteration description term for fine grained white micas such as muscovite mica or paragonite mica
Silurian	The geological period extended from 435 to 395 million years ago, a duration of 40 million years
Shear zone	A zone in which shearing has occurred on a large scale
Silicification	The process whereby silica is introduced into a non siliceous rock either by the filling of pore spaces or by replacement of existing minerals
Silicified rock	Rock which has undergone silicification

Sinistral	The apparent movement of a fault block to the left along the fault relative to the other side
Soil anomaly	Zone of soils that contain anomalous or above ordinary concentrations of an element
Sphalerite	A zinc sulphide mineral; the most common ore mineral of zinc
Stockworks	A network of veinlets, usually quartz
Stratigraphic contact	Plane where one stratigraphic unit meets another
Stratigraphic unit	Layered sedimentary or metamorphic rocks, especially their relative ages and correlation between different areas
Strike	Horizontal direction or trend of a bed of rock or a geological structure
Strike slip shear zone	Shear zone in which the movement has occurred parallel to a structures horizontal trend
Stromatolite	A fossil form representing the growth habit of an algal mat: concentric spherules, stacked hemispheres, or flat sheets of calcium carbonate and trapped silt encountered in limestones
Stromeyerite	A rare ore mineral of silver and copper
Sulphide disseminations	Where sulphide minerals are disseminated or dispersed throughout a rock
Supergene	Meaning 'from above' it is used almost exclusively for processes involving water, with or without dissolved material, percolating down from the surface. Typical supergene processes are solution, hydration, oxidation, deposition from solution and chemical substitution
Synclinal	See syncline
Syncline	A basin shaped fold in which rock are younging upwards
Synform	A basin shaped fold in which either no younging direction has been determined or in which the rocks young downwards
Te	Tellurium
Tenantite	Copper-iron sulphide
Tourmaline	A complex crystalline silicate containing aluminium, boron, and other elements associated with acid rocks but also occurring in schists and gneisses
Trenches	Linear excavations typically used by geologists to expose rock beneath shallow overburden
Turbidites	The sedimentary deposit of a turbidity current, typically showing graded bedding and sedimentary structures on the undersides of the sandstones
Tuff	Fine grained fragmental rock formed from deposits of volcanic detritus
Tuffaceous	A sedimentary rock with a significant tuff component
Unconformity	A surface that separates two strata and represents an interval of time in which deposition stopped, or erosion removed material before deposition resumed
V	Vanadium

Vuggy	Texture of mineral veins containing cavities, or vughs, usually lined with crystals
Volcanoclastics	Description of a clastic rock containing volcanic material
Zn	Zinc