

OBSERVACIONES GEOLÓGICAS EN EL SECTOR COMPRENDIDO ENTRE RIO DE LA CARPA Y ARROYO DE LA TORRE, SIERRA DE SAN LUIS.

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ABSTRACT

New outcrops of rich-gamet quartzites and metavolcanic rocks were found in the Sierra of San Luis, in the geological setting of Eastern Sierras Pampeanas, Argentina. The area is located between La Carpa river and de la Torre river to the west of Rio Guzman shear zone. The outcrops found give a regional character to the presence of such rocks in the premetamorphic sedimentary environment with volcanic contribution in the Sierra of San Luis. Previous discoveries of spessartite quartzites are located near La Higuera wolfram mine and in La Riojita mine. Quartzites recognized in this work are similar to La Riojita mine ones. Garnet-rich quartzites occur as clear and very narrow folded bands hosted by garnet-bearing quartz-biotite schists, distributed in an area of around 30 meters.

Metavolcanic rocks had already been found in Santo Domingo and El Araucano scheelite mines two to three kilometers south of the studied area. Therefore metavolcanics described in this work are considered an extension of those found in Santo Domingo to the north of La Carpa river. They occur as tabular bodies (1 to 3 meter-width) standing out in the phyllites of San Luis Formation. The metavolcanic outcrops are yellowish in color and harder than the phyllitic rocks.

Spessartite quartzites or "coticules" are frequently associated with stratabound volcanogenic deposits and massive sulphide deposits. The metallogenic relevance of metavolcanic rocks in the area is related with the occurrence of disseminated scheelite mineralization in neighboring mines.