

**LA VIQUITA, SIERRA DE LA ESTANZUELA, SAN LUIS: GEOLOGÍA DE UNA
PEGMATITA
DE SUBTIPO ESPODUMENO ENRIQUECIDA EN ÓXIDOS DE Nb-Ta-Ti-Sn**

Martinez, Viviana # y Galliski, Miguel Angel *

Bo. Jardines de Urquiza, Manzana A Casa 1, 5521 Guaymalldn Mendoza

* IANIGLA, CRICYT (CONICET), C.O .330 (5.500) Mendoza, ARGENTINA.

E-mail: galliski@lab.cricyt.edu.ar

Abstract

La Viquita is a spodumene-subtype, complex-type, rare-element pegmatite placed at 65° 06' 30" W and 31° 51' 00" S in the La Estanzuela Range, Eastern Pampean Ranges. It is a 190 m long, roughly lens-shaped body, that has 40 m wide, N42°E streak and in between 31° and 60°E dip. It is discordantly intruded in medium-grade micaschists with garnet and staurolite porphyroblasts. La Viquita has a zoned internal structure with border (Qtz+Mu), wall (Kfs+Qtz+Mu), external-intermediate zone (Kfs+Qtz+Mu+Ab+Mo), central-intermediate zone (Kfs+Qtz+Sp+Ab+Mo+Mu), internal-intermediate zone (Qtz+Kfs+Sp+Ab+Mu) and a core (Qtz+Sp+Kfs). Fracture filling units have Mu+Qtz association and the replacement bodies contain Sp+Ab+Qtz. Besides rock-forming minerals that are: albite, K-feldspars, quartz, spodumene, muscovite and amblygonite-montebrazite, La Viquita contains beryl, apatite, tourmaline, eosphorite, ernstite, purpurite-heterosite, and a rich Nb-Ta-Sn-Ti ore bearing association that include ferrocolumbite, ferrotantalite, manganocolumbite, tapiolite, and wodginite-group minerals.