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LAS INCLUSIONES FLUIDAS EN EL INTRUSIVO DEL PROSPECTO CERRO AMARILLO, MALARGUE, MENDOZA

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Abstract

The Cerro Amarillo prospect is located about 50 km west of Malargue city, Mendoza province. This prospect consists of a large, 3 km long by 2 km wide, very striking color, alteration zone located in a topographic depression approximately 4 km west of Las Leñas fault.

The alteration zone is developed over a little-eroded, poorly-outcropping, and partial to strongly leached porphyry Cu-Mo-Au system that hosts hydrothermal breccias and scattered outcrops of skarn mineralization Abundant inclusions were found in quartz veinlets, including Type I (fluid-rich), Type II (gas-rich) and Type III (polyphase), the latter hosting up to five phases daughter crystals. Type III inclusions are highly saline, up to 70% wt. NaCl equivalent.

The high salinity and the frequent co-existence of gas and fluid-rich inclusions indicate boiling conditions typical of orthomagmatic porphyry copper systems.

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