PARAGÉNESIS MINERAL DE MINA RIO AGRIO, DEPARTAMENTO PICUNCHES, PROVINCIA DEL NEUQUÉN

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ABSTRACT

In this study, new determinations of Cu-Pb arsenates of Rio Agrio barite mine are presented. The Rio Agrio mine is one of the barite ore deposit in the Mallin Quemado district, wich was mined up to the 60'. This deposit consists in a parallel vein system, located in axis- fold faults, with mainly breccia structure. They are composed basically by barite, quartz and calcite with base metal sulfides and a great variety of oxidation mineral species: sulphates, carbonates, oxides, vanadates and arsenates.

Mineralogical studies by X ray diffraction and EDAX revelead the presence of a Cu —Pb arsenate (bayldonite)) and probably other secondary species, not found in this country until now.

The paragenetic association, preliminary fluid inclusions and stable isotope studies indicate that this barite mineralization was formed in an epithermal system.

Página 109