

Lady Loretta Silver-Lead Mine

- MIM. \$100 million. Feasibility study being carried out. Good possibility it may go ahead in next few years. Concentrator would be on site.

Cockle Creek Zinc Plant Expansion (N.S.W.)

- Sulphide Corp. \$150 million. Doubling production of zinc to 145,000 TPY and sulphuric acid to 280,000 TPY using electrolytic process. Includes roaster, acid plant and cell house for electrolysis. For commissioning 1984. Feasibility study in final stages.

8. NICKEL

Australia is the fourth largest nickel producer in the world and, with the exception of the small Greenvale mine in Queensland, its nickel comes from the Kalgoorlie region of Western Australia. Western Mining Corporation is the major company with two large mines: Kambalda (1.5 million TPY), and Windarra (1 million TPY), with concentrators of the same capacity in both areas, a 450,000-TPY smelter at Kalgoorlie and a 30,000-TPY refinery (using the Sherritt-Gordon process) at Kevinana. There are smaller mines at Nepean (Metals Exploration), Scotia and Carr Boyd Rocks (Greater Boulder-North Kalgoorlie), and Widgiemooltha (Inco-BHP). The Anaconda-CRA mine at Redross was shut down in 1978 and, also in 1978, the first phase 30,000 TPY Agnew mine came on-stream.

PROJECTS

Mount Keith Nickel Mine (W.A.)

- Australian Consolidated Minerals, AMAX, Metals Exploration. Massive low-grade nickel sulphide deposit. Drilling and geophysical work completed. Awaiting rise in world prices.

Forrestania Nickel Mine (W.A.)

- AMAX, Amoco, Endeavour. \$40 million. Eight million tonnes reserves of more than two per cent nickel. Awaiting higher prices, markets (1983?). Would include construction of concentrator.

Agnew Nickel Mine, Phase II

- Agnew Mining (MIM, Western Selcast). \$66 million. Expansion of mine to be completed 1983. Some equipment tenders already let. Decline shaft to 1,000 metres. Considering flash smelting for nickel concentrates.

Sally Malay Nickel-Copper Mine (W.A.)

- Australian Anglo-American. Exploration stage. Promising deposits of nickel and copper, and some silver.