

MINE VENT

2019



Ventilation planning considerations for the Carrapateena Sublevel Cave

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Introduction

OZ Minerals is a South Australian based modern mining company with a focus on copper.

Their Carrapateena project, located 160km north of Porth Augusta is one of Australia's largest undeveloped copper deposits

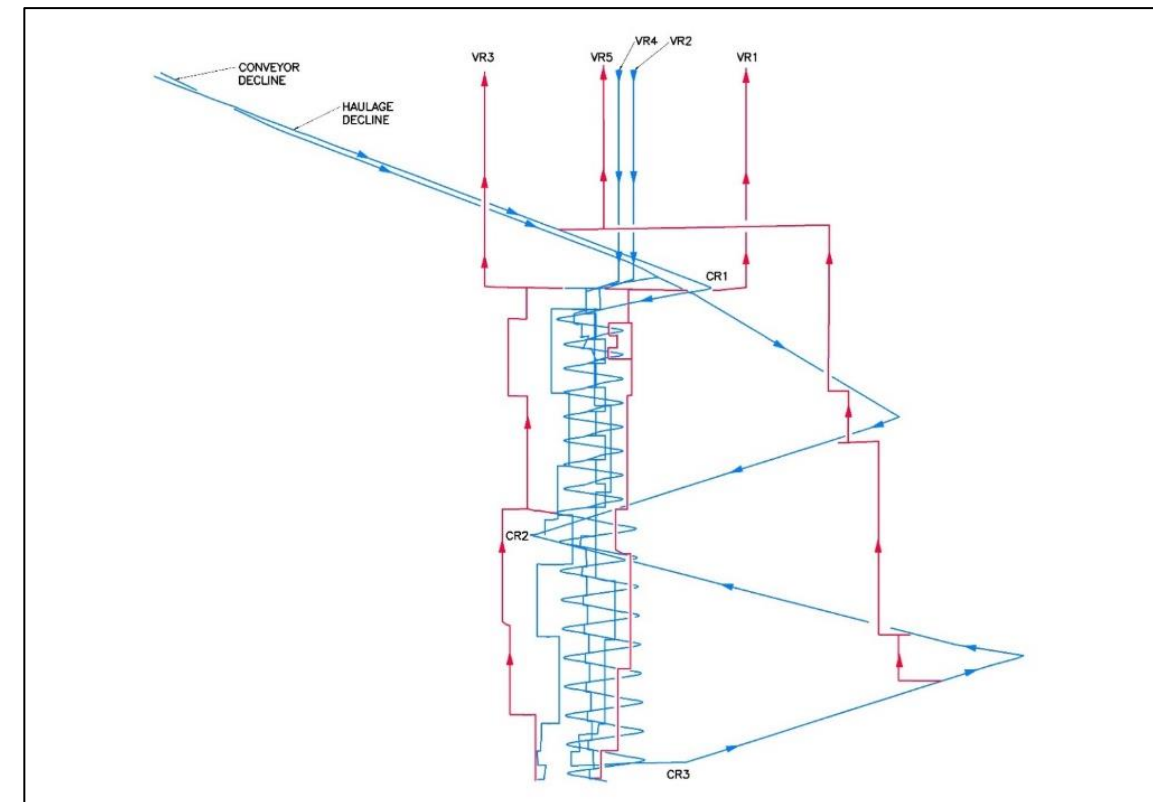


Background

- 4.25Mtpa Sub-level Caving Operation
- Estimated mine life of 20 years
- Potential to transition for initial SLC to a future 12Mtpa Block Cave
- 1.4km deep with Refrigeration required from ~700m depth
- Max VRT of 66°C
- Copper-gold orebody with uranium grade, low-levels radon emanation
- Heat and Radon main drivers
- Ventilation on Demand “mine-of-the-future”

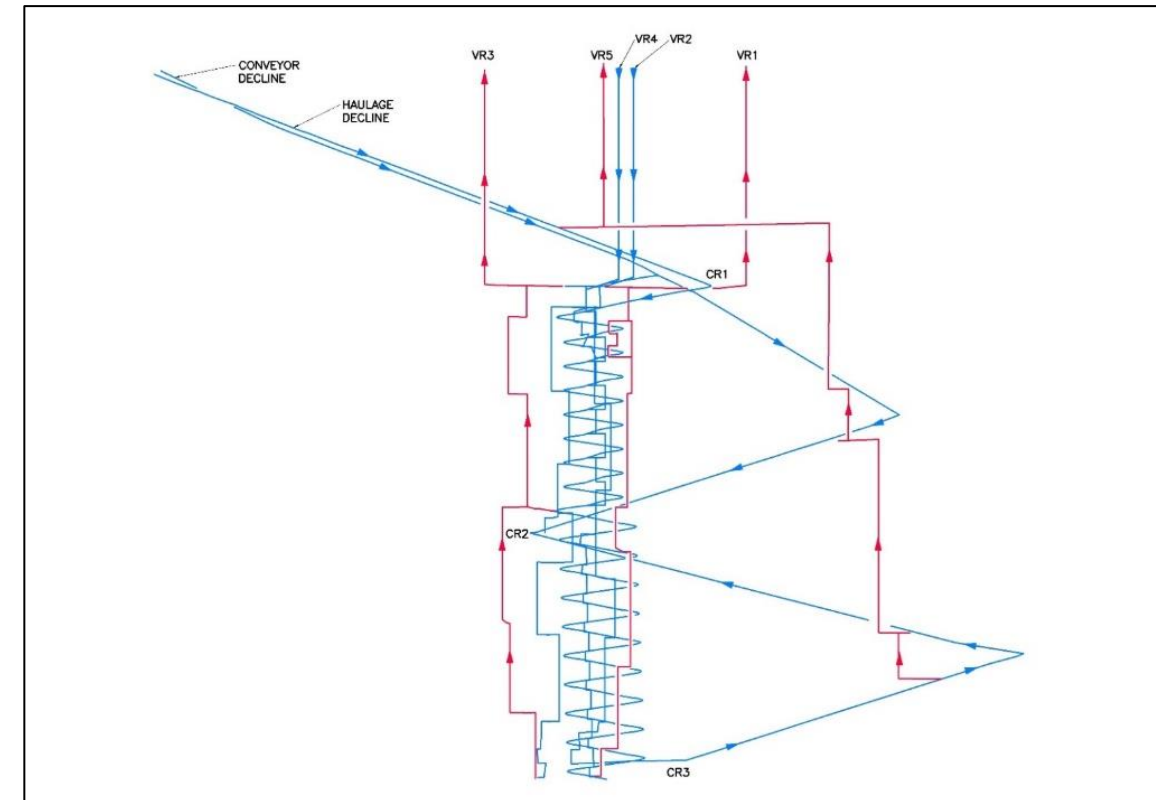
Planned Intake Infrastructure

- Conveyor Decline
- Access Decline
- Two $\Phi 5.0\text{m}$ Production FAR
- One stepped $5.5\text{m} \times 5.5\text{m}$ decline FAR
- 16MW_R Refrigeration
- Two 8MW Bulk air coolers



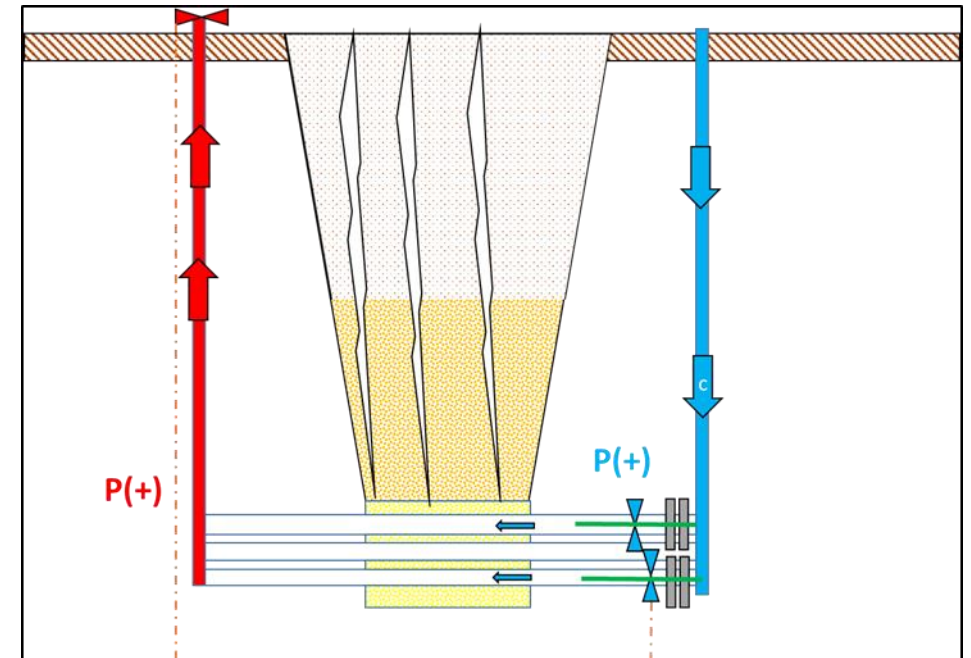
Planned Exhaust Infrastructure

- Two $\Phi 5.5\text{m}$ Production RAR
- One $\Phi 4.1\text{m}$ Infrastructure RAR
- Primary airflow capacity - $1180\text{m}^3/\text{s}$



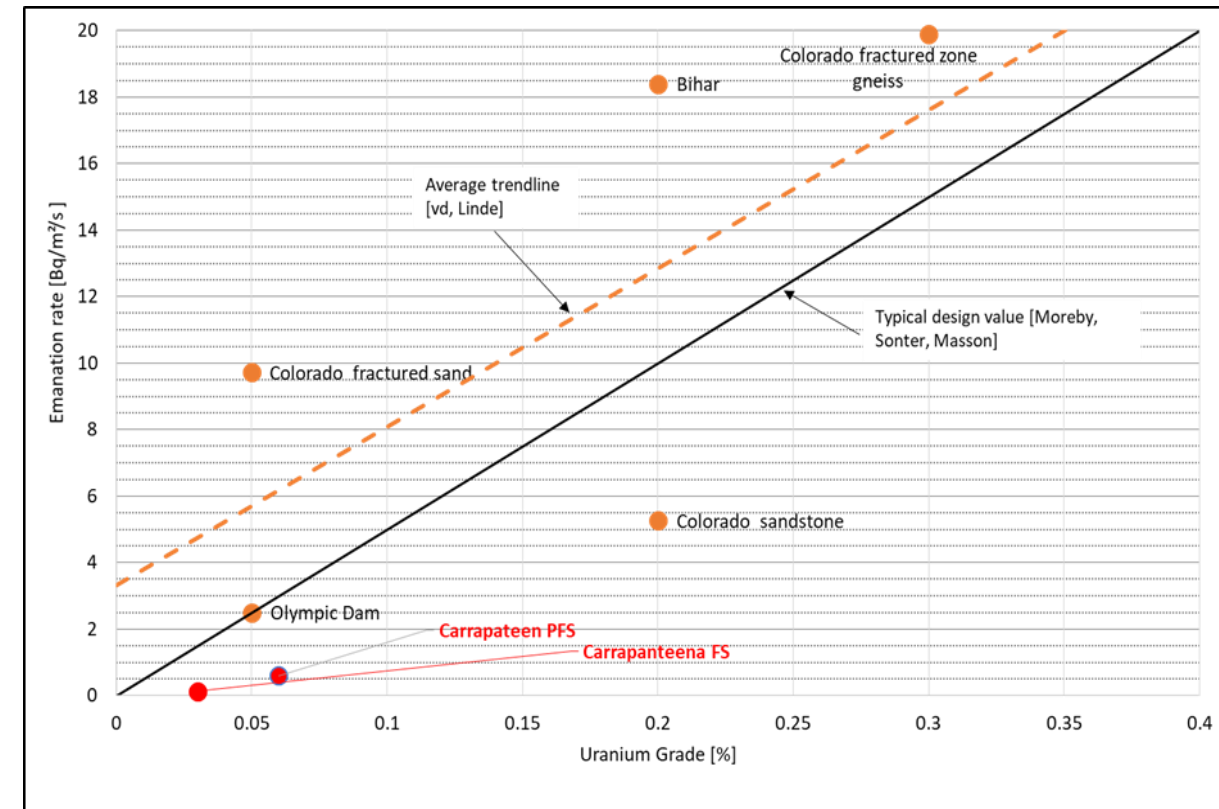
Primary Ventilation Strategy

- Push-Pull Strategy
- Conventional surface primary exhaust fans
- Secondary fans installed in tight circuit in FAR
- Positively pressurised levels



Considerations

- Ore body contains low levels of uranium grade
- Radon management for production levels only
- Low levels of radon emanation expected
- Pro-active conservative ventilation design



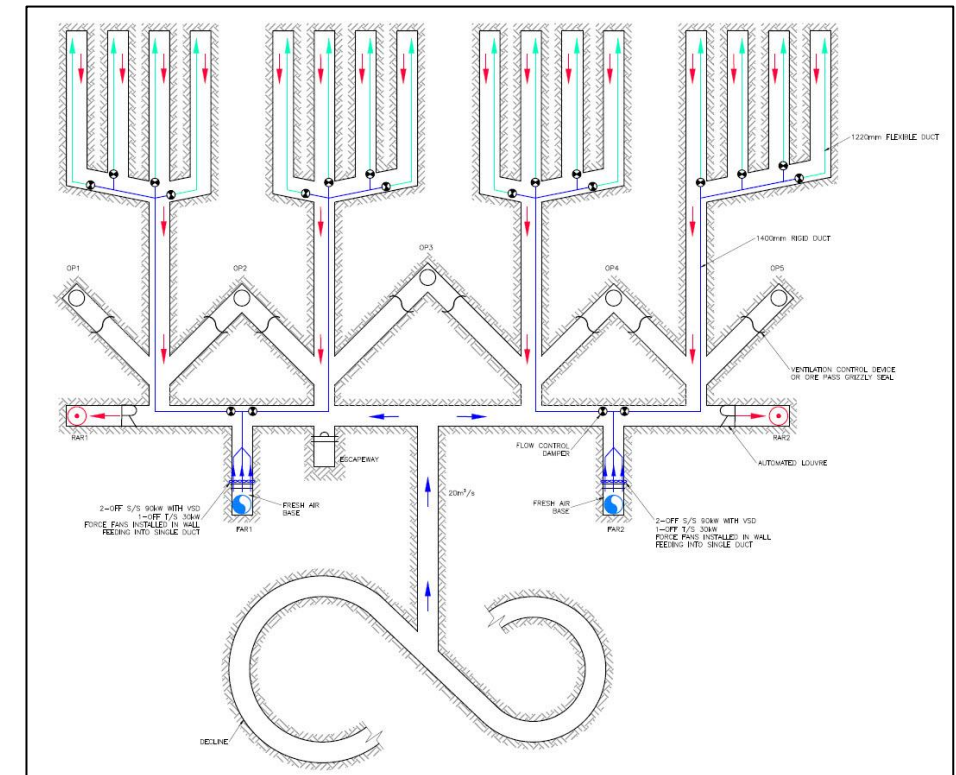
Radon Management Principles

To manage Radon in underground mines;

- Manage dust as Radon Daughters adhere to dust particles
- Ensure one pass ventilation and minimize series ventilation and re-use
- Ensure adequate air velocity to prevent dust settling in working areas
- Ensure areas such as crushers and ore passes have adequate dust suppression.

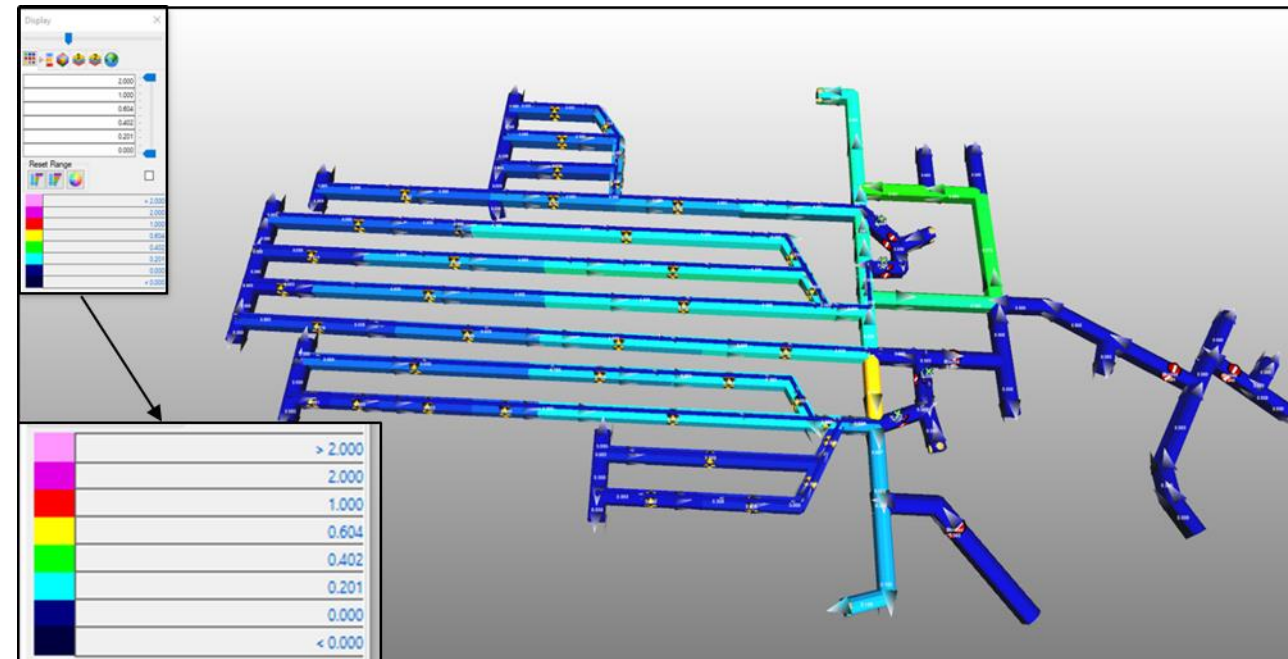
Features of the mine – Initial SLC

- 25m vertical sub-level spacing
- Ore is tipped on-level into ore passes
- Two lift SLC with three underground crushers
- Four levels in production
- Two levels in development
- Average of four “chickens feet” per level



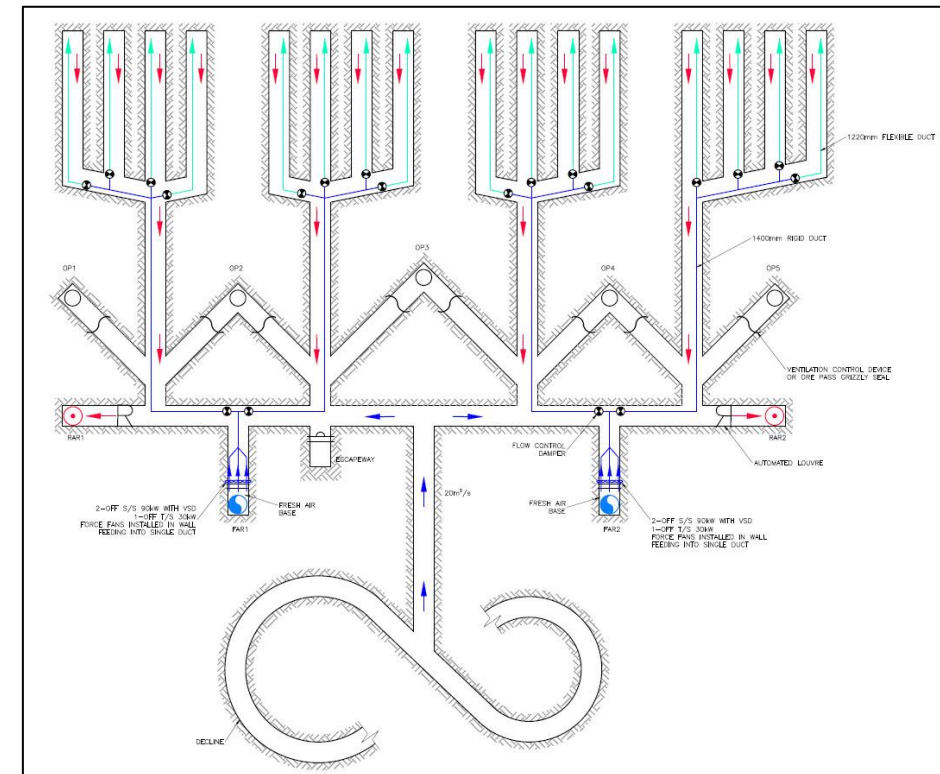
Production Level Ventilation

- Maintain RnDP below $2\mu\text{J}/\text{m}^3$
- $2\text{m}^3/\text{s}$ continuous flow required
- Impractical to maintain
- Flushing cycle strategy
- VoD system reliant



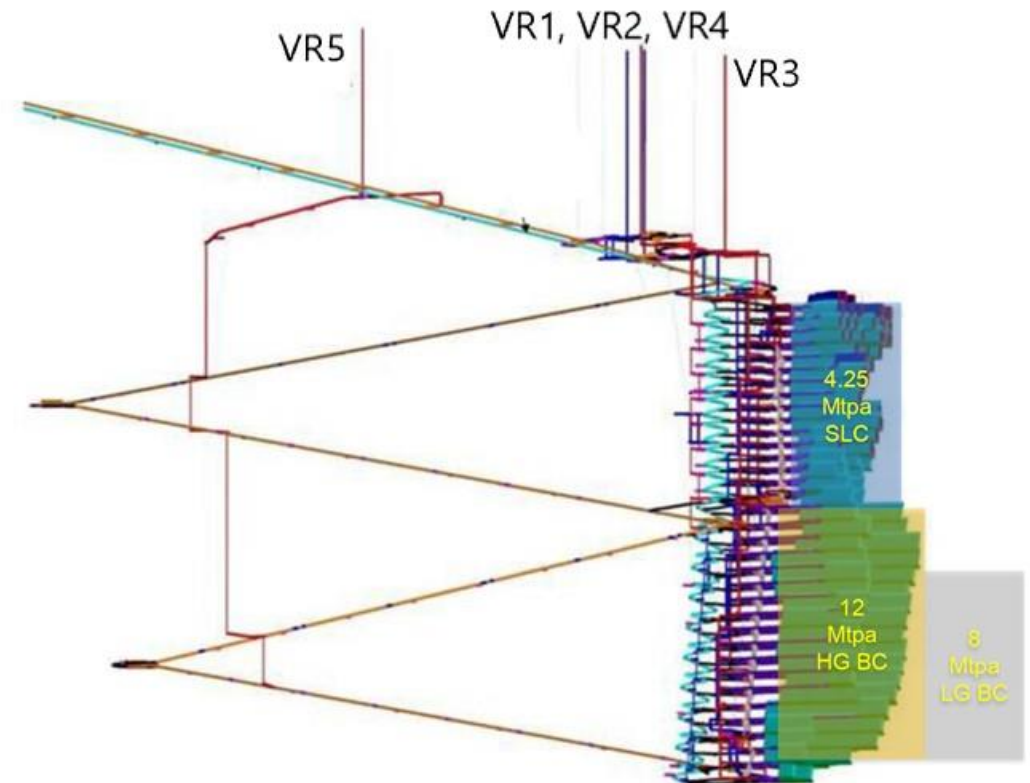
Ventilation on Demand Strategy

- Variable / dual speed fans
- In-duct flow control valves
- Automated exhaust louvres
- Air quality monitoring
- Equipment tracking
- Pressure differential sensors



Features of the mine – Future block cave

- Increase production to 12Mtpa
- Apex, Undercut and Extraction levels
- El Teniente extraction level layout
- Dedicated exhaust ventilation level
- Peak airflow during development and construction $\sim 1000\text{m}^3/\text{s}$



Transitioning from an SLC to a BC

Minimize flow through the cave

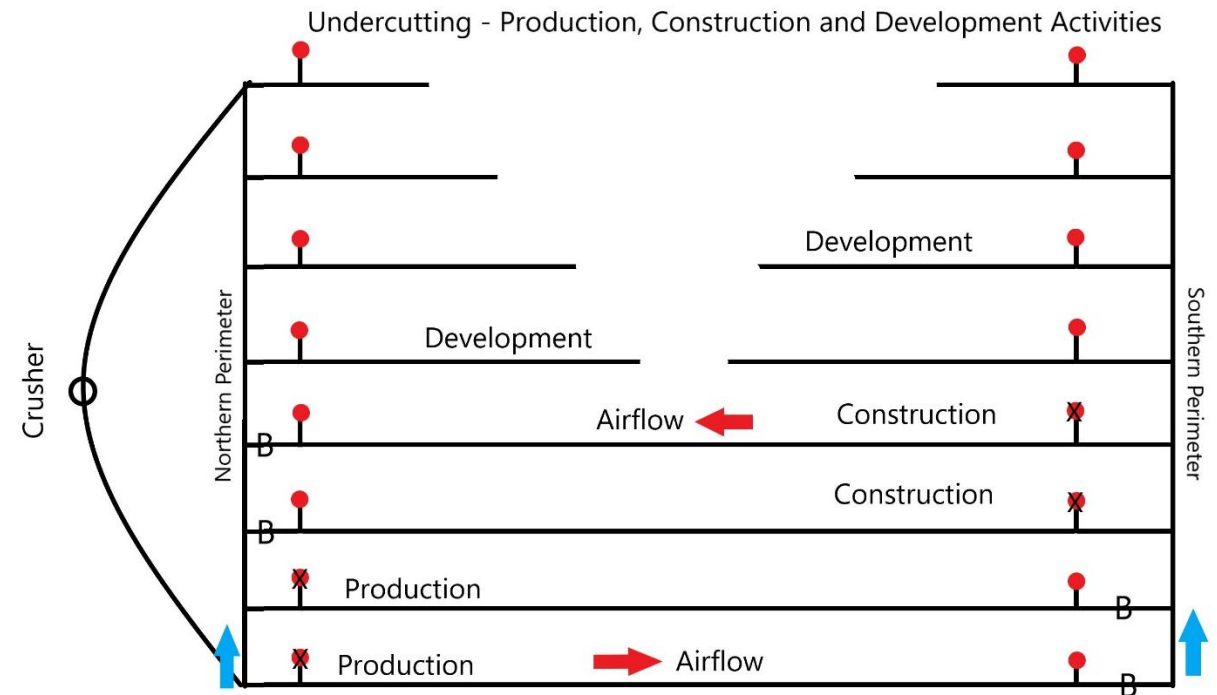
- Manage connections to the ventilation system
- Barricade connections to the cave where possible

Manage pressure gradient

- Manage pressure gradient across the cave to discharge radon to non-working areas (not the Undercut and Extraction levels)

Block Cave Development

- Multiple short raises
- No daisy chain or series ventilation
- Ability to flip exhaust direction
- Provision for additional 8MW_R during development



Conclusion

- Initial 4.3Mtpa SLC transitioning into a 12Mtpa Block Cave
- Push-pull ventilation strategy
- Positively pressurise levels to manage leakage from cave
- High VRT's and Radon Management Key Ventilation Drivers
- Radon management during cave development requires a flexible system
- VoD systems to design a “mine-of-the-future”

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Any Questions??