GEOLGY AND ZINC-LEAD DEPOSITS IN THE DURANGO AREA, DUHQUE COUNTY, IOWA

Arthur E. Ford and C. Anita Brown

INTRODUCTION

Geological investigations and data on zinc-lead deposits in the Durogo area of Duque County, Iowa, were made in the course of research on the geology of deposits of lead and zinc in general. The leads and zinc-lead deposits in the Durogo area are situated in the northwestern part of the county, near the town of Durogo. The region is characterized by a series of folded anticlines, which are parallel with the folds of the state of Iowa. The anticlines are composed of sedimentary rocks of the Triassic and Jurassic periods, which are overlain by younger rocks of the Cretaceous and Paleogene periods. The lead and zinc-lead deposits occur in the Triassic and Jurassic rocks, which are composed of sandstone, shale, and limestone. The lead and zinc-lead deposits are associated with the formation of oxide minerals, such as pyrite, galena, and sphalerite. The deposits are of the oxidized type, which are characterized by the presence of these oxide minerals. The deposits are of economic importance, and are being mined for their lead and zinc content. The mining of these deposits is an important source of income for the local economy. The mining of these deposits is being conducted in a sustainable manner, with an emphasis on minimizing the environmental impact.