

MINERA ANDES INC /WA
Form 10QSB
May 15, 2001

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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-QSB

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2001

TRANSITION REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file Number 000-22731

MINERA ANDES INC.
(Exact name of small business issuer as specified in its charter)

ALBERTA, CANADA
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

NONE
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

3303 N. SULLIVAN ROAD, SPOKANE, WA 99216
(Address of principal executive offices)

(509) 921-7322
(Issuer's telephone number)

Check whether the issuer (1) filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act during the past 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Shares outstanding as of April 30, 2001: 30,046,030 shares of common stock, with no par value

Transitional Small Business Disclosure Format (Check One): Yes No

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MINERA ANDES INC.
 "An Exploration Stage Corporation"
 CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
 (U.S. Dollars - Unaudited)

	March 31, 2001 -----	December 31, 2000 -----
ASSETS		
Current:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 147,200	\$ 101,818
Receivables and prepaid expenses	50,338	32,439
	-----	-----
Total current assets	197,538	134,257
Mineral properties and deferred exploration costs	3,698,010	3,859,297
Capital assets, net	27,163	41,063
	-----	-----
Total assets	\$ 3,922,711	\$ 4,034,617
	=====	=====
LIABILITIES		
Current:		
Accounts payable and accruals	\$ 68,523	\$ 48,512
Due to related parties	24,932	50,307
	-----	-----
Total current liabilities	93,455	98,819
	-----	-----
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Share capital	18,197,422	18,189,864
Accumulated deficit	(14,368,166)	(14,254,066)
	-----	-----
Total shareholders' equity	3,829,256	3,935,798
	-----	-----
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 3,922,711	\$4,034,617
	=====	=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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MINERA ANDES INC.
 "An Exploration Stage Corporation"
 CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND ACCUMULATED DEFICIT
 (U.S. Dollars-Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		Period from
	March 31, 2001	March 31, 2000	July 1, 1994 (commencement) through March 31, 2001
Administration fees	\$ 5,856	\$ 6,880	\$ 210,868
Audit and accounting	27,786	26,790	316,008
Consulting fees	8,719	27,998	885,269
Depreciation	1,069	986	55,126
Equipment rental	0	1,517	21,522
Foreign exchange (gain) loss	549	(4,070)	406,964
Insurance	6,300	16,613	216,014
Legal	23,074	30,334	597,260
Maintenance	0	0	892
Materials and supplies	0	0	45,512
Office overhead	15,057	24,405	1,317,646
Telephone	4,516	13,781	342,914
Transfer agent	1,573	6,041	88,536
Travel	3,129	8,121	310,720
Wages and benefits	36,829	39,602	1,081,721
Write-off of deferred costs	0	0	8,118,123
Total expenses	134,457	198,998	14,015,095
Gain on sale of capital assets	(20,108)	0	(55,112)
Interest income	(249)	(8,635)	(452,046)
Net loss for the period	114,100	190,363	13,507,937
Accumulated deficit, beginning of the period	14,254,066	12,999,237	0
Share issue costs	0	104,184	843,014
Deficiency on acquisition of subsidiary	0	0	17,215
Accumulated deficit, end of the period	\$14,368,166	\$13,293,784	\$ 14,368,166
Basic and diluted net loss per common share	\$ nil	\$ 0.01	
Weighted average shares outstanding	30,017,408	27,925,345	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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MINERA ANDES INC.
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 CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF MINERAL PROPERTIES
 AND DEFERRED EXPLORATION COSTS

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(U.S. Dollars-Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		Period from
	March 31, 2001	March 31, 2000	July 1, 1994 (commencement) through March 31, 2001
Administration fees	\$ 4,597	\$ 4,098	\$ 347,620
Assays and analytical	0	30,013	938,822
Construction and trenching	0	0	507,957
Consulting fees	10,385	15,063	903,259
Depreciation	2,939	4,680	164,380
Drilling	0	145,008	928,833
Equipment rental	0	0	244,068
Geology	1,628	56,502	2,902,743
Geophysics	0	0	309,902
Insurance	2,635	5,502	231,743
Legal	28,426	563	648,211
Maintenance	761	4,682	157,573
Materials and supplies	229	20,652	431,553
Project overhead	1,434	3,727	293,410
Property and mineral rights	2,364	12,165	1,280,589
Telephone	272	4,068	81,354
Travel	2,397	37,514	999,507
Wages and benefits	30,646	27,270	868,470
Costs incurred during the period	88,713	371,507	12,239,994
Deferred costs, beginning of the period	3,859,297	3,622,902	0
Deferred costs, acquired	0	0	576,139
Deferred costs written off	0	0	(8,118,123)
Mineral property option proceeds	(250,000)	0	(1,000,000)
Deferred costs, end of the period	\$ 3,698,010	\$ 3,994,409	\$ 3,698,010

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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MINERA ANDES INC.
 "An Exploration Stage Corporation"
 CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
 (U.S. Dollars-Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		Period from
	March 31, 2001	March 31, 2000	July 1, 1994 (commencement) through March 31, 2001
Operating Activities			
Net loss for the period	\$ (114,100)	\$ (190,363)	\$ (13,507,000)

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Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:			
Write-off of incorporation costs	0	0	
Write-off of deferred costs	0	0	8,118,
Depreciation	1,069	986	55,
Gain on sale of capital assets	(20,108)	0	(55,
Change in:			
Receivables and prepaid expense	(17,899)	(910)	(48,
Accounts payable and accruals	20,011	(76,515)	49,
Due to related parties	(25,375)	41,507	24,
	-----	-----	-----
Cash used in operating activities	(156,402)	(225,295)	(5,363,
	-----	-----	-----
Investing Activities			
Incorporation costs	0	0	(
Sale (purchase) of capital assets	30,000	0	(191,
Mineral properties and deferred exploration	(85,774)	(366,827)	(12,075,
Acquisition of subsidiaries	0	0	(
Mineral property option proceeds	250,000	0	1,000,
	-----	-----	-----
Cash provided by (used in) investing activities	194,226	(366,827)	(11,268,
	-----	-----	-----
Financing Activities			
Shares issued for cash, less issue costs	7,558	962,899	16,778,
	-----	-----	-----
Cash provided by financing activities	7,558	962,899	16,778,
	-----	-----	-----
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	45,382	370,777	147,2
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of the period	101,818	483,471	
	-----	-----	-----
Cash and cash equivalents, end of the period	\$ 147,200	\$ 854,248	\$ 147,
	=====	=====	=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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MINERA ANDES INC.
 "An Exploration Stage Corporation"
 NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 (U.S. Dollars-Unaudited)

1. Accounting Policies

The accompanying consolidated financial statements of Minera Andes Inc. (the "Corporation") for the three month periods ended March 31, 2001 and 2000 and for the period from commencement (July 1, 1994) through March 31, 2001 have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Canada which differ in certain respects from principles and practices generally accepted in the United States, as described in Note 2. Also, they are unaudited but, in the opinion of management, include all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring items, necessary for a fair presentation. Interim results are not necessarily indicative of results which may be achieved in the future. The December 31, 2000 financial information has been derived from the Corporation's audited consolidated financial statements.

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These consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the year ended December 31, 2000. The accounting policies set forth in the audited annual consolidated financial statements are the same as the accounting policies utilized in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements, except as modified for appropriate interim presentation.

The recoverability of amounts shown as mineral properties and deferred exploration costs is dependent upon the existence of economically recoverable reserves, the ability of the Corporation to obtain necessary financing to complete their development, and future profitable production or disposition thereof. The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared using accounting principles generally accepted in Canada applicable to a going concern. The use of such principles may not be appropriate because, as of March 31, 2001, there was significant doubt that the Corporation would be able to continue as a going concern.

For the three months ended March 31, 2001, the Corporation had a loss of approximately \$114,000 and an accumulated deficit of approximately \$14.4 million. In addition, due to the nature of the mining business, the acquisition, exploration and development of mineral properties requires significant expenditures prior to the commencement of production. To date, the Corporation has financed its activities through the sale of equity securities and joint venture arrangements. The Corporation expects to use similar financing techniques in the future and is actively pursuing such additional sources of financing.

Although there is no assurance that the Corporation will be successful in these actions, management believes that they will be able to secure the necessary financing to enable it to continue as a going concern. Accordingly, these financial statements do not reflect adjustments to the carrying value of assets and liabilities, the reported revenues and expenses and balance sheet classifications used that would be necessary if the going concern assumption were not appropriate. Such adjustments could be material.

2. Differences Between Canadian and United States Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

Differences between Canadian and U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") as they pertain to the Corporation relate to accounting for share issue costs, loss per share, non-cash issuance of common shares, the acquisition of Scotia Prime Minerals, Incorporated, compensation expense associated with the release of shares from escrow, mineral properties and deferred exploration costs and stock-based compensation and are described in Note 13 to the Corporation's consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2000.

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MINERA ANDES INC.
"An Exploration Stage Corporation"
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Cont.)
(U.S. Dollars-Unaudited)

The impact of the above on the interim consolidated financial statements is as follows:

March 31, 2001	Dec. 31, 2000
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Accumulated deficit, end of period, per Canadian GAAP	\$14,368,166	\$14,254,066
Adjustment for acquisition of Scotia	248,590	248,590
Adjustment for compensation expense	6,324,914	6,324,914
Adjustment for share issue costs	(843,014)	(843,014)
Adjustment for deferred exploration costs	3,794,858	3,708,509
	-----	-----
Accumulated deficit, end of period, per U.S. GAAP	\$23,893,514	\$23,693,065
	=====	=====

	March 31, 2001	Dec. 31, 2000
	-----	-----
Share capital, per Canadian GAAP	\$18,197,422	\$18,189,864
Adjustment for acquisition of Scotia	248,590	248,590
Adjustment for compensation expense	6,324,914	6,324,914
Adjustment for share issue costs	(843,014)	(843,014)
	-----	-----
Share capital, per U.S. GAAP	\$23,927,912	\$23,920,354
	=====	=====

	Three Months Ended		Period from
	March 31, 2001	March 31, 2000	July 1, 1994
	-----	-----	(commencement)
			through
			March 31, 2001
	-----	-----	-----
Net loss for the period, per Canadian GAAP	\$114,100	\$190,363	\$13,507,937
Adjustment for acquisition of Scotia	0	0	248,590
Adjustment for compensation expense	0	0	6,324,914
Adjustment for deferred exploration costs	86,349	359,342	3,794,858
	-----	-----	-----
Loss for the period, per U.S. GAAP	\$200,449	\$549,705	\$23,876,299
	=====	=====	=====
Loss per common share, per U.S. GAAP	\$0.01	\$ 0.02	
	=====	=====	

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MINERA ANDES INC.
 "An Exploration Stage Corporation"
 NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Cont.)
 (U.S. Dollars-Unaudited)

3. Changes to Share Capital

At January 31, 2001, warrants to acquire 9,200,000 Common Shares at an exercise price of Cdn\$0.35 per share expired without being exercised.

During the quarter ended March 31, 2001, the Corporation issued 46,000 shares

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for the exercise of stock options and received proceeds of Cdn\$11,500 (US\$7,558).

4. Basic and Diluted Loss Per Common Share

Basic earnings per share (EPS) is calculated by dividing loss applicable to common shareholders by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding for the year. Diluted EPS reflects the potential dilution that could occur if potentially dilutive securities were exercised or converted to common stock. Due to the losses in 2001 and 2000, potentially dilutive securities were excluded from the calculation of diluted EPS, as they were anti-dilutive. Therefore, there was no difference in the calculation of basic and diluted EPS in 2001 and 2000.

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

The information in this report includes "forward-looking" statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("1934 Act"), and is subject to the safe harbor created by those sections. Factors that could cause results to differ materially from those projected include, but are not limited to, results of current exploration activities, the market price of precious and base metals, the availability of joint venture partners or sources of financing, and other risk factors detailed in the Corporation's Securities and Exchange Commission filings.

Overview

The principal business of the Corporation is the exploration and development of mineral properties, located primarily in the Republic of Argentina, consisting of mineral rights and applications for mineral rights, covering approximately 163,000 hectares in three provinces in Argentina. The Corporation carries out its business by acquiring, exploring and evaluating mineral properties through its ongoing exploration program. Following exploration, the Corporation either seeks to enter joint ventures to further develop these properties or disposes of them if the properties do not meet the Corporation's requirements. The Corporation's properties are all early stage exploration properties and no proven or probable reserves have been identified.

Plan of Operations

The Corporation has working capital of approximately \$104,000, sufficient, together with funds from the joint ventures on the El Pluma/Cerro Saavedra and Chubut properties, as estimated by management, to cover its budgeted expenditures for mineral property and exploration activities on its properties in Argentina, and general and administrative expenses through the end of 2001.

On March 15, 2001, Minera Andes Inc. signed an option and joint venture agreement with Mauricio Hochschild & Cia. Ltda. (Hochschild), Lima, Peru, for the exploration and possible development of Minera Andes' 217,000-acre (88,000 hectares) epithermal gold-silver exploration land package in southern Argentina. The land package, known as El Pluma/Cerro Saavedra, includes Huevos Verdes, a high-grade gold/silver vein system target, and Minera Andes' most advanced exploration prospect. The signing allows Hochschild to immediately begin exploration work on El Pluma/ Cerro Saavedra, and required an initial payment to Minera Andes of US\$200,000 (received on March 19, 2001) as part of a total

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annual payment of US\$400,000.

Under the agreement, Hochschild can earn a 51 percent ownership in El Pluma/Cerro Saavedra by spending a total of US\$3 million in three years, and a minimum of US\$100,000 per year on exploration targets within El Pluma/Cerro Saavedra other than Huevos Verdes, the most advanced prospect. In addition, Hochschild will make semi-annual payments totaling US\$400,000 per year until pilot plant production is achieved.

The agreement also outlines a business plan for possible mining production based on the positive exploration results achieved to date by Minera Andes at Huevos Verdes.

Once Hochschild vests at 51 percent ownership, Minera Andes will have the option of participating in the development of a pilot production plant that would process a minimum of 50 tons per day (tpd). Minera Andes may participate on either a pro-rata basis, or by choosing to retain a 35 percent "carried" ownership interest. Upon the successful completion and operation of the 50 tpd plant, Minera Andes would have the option of participating on a pro-rata basis, or choosing a 15 percent interest in return to being "carried" to first production of 500 tpd.

The Corporation has budgeted and plans to spend approximately \$0.5 million on its mineral property and exploration activities and general and administrative expenses for the year ending December 31, 2001, with most properties being kept on care and maintenance. The Corporation's existing funds, plus funds from the joint venture properties, are estimated by management to be sufficient to finance these activities through the end of 2001. If additional funds are raised during 2001, through the exercise of warrants or options, through a further equity financing, by the sale of property interests or by joint venture financing, additional exploration could be planned and carried out. If the Corporation were to develop a property or a group of properties beyond the exploration stage, substantial additional financing would be necessary. Such financing would likely be in the form of equity, debt, or a combination of equity and debt. The Corporation has no current plan to seek such financing and there is no assurance that such financing, if necessary, would be available to the Corporation on favorable terms.

Results of Operations

First quarter 2001 compared with first quarter 2000

The Corporation had a net loss of approximately \$114,000 for the first quarter of 2001, compared with a net loss of approximately \$190,000 for the first quarter of 2000. The decrease in net loss can be attributed to a reduction in the Corporation's general and administrative expenses in the first quarter of 2001 as compared to the first quarter of 2000. Total mineral property and deferred exploration costs were approximately \$89,000 (before mineral property option proceeds) during the first quarter of 2001, compared with approximately \$372,000 spent in the first quarter of 2000. The Corporation is maintaining its staff in Argentina at minimum levels, while still completing geological consulting contracts on its major property. Expenditures in both periods were focused on the El Pluma/Cerro Saavedra property.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Due to the nature of the mining industry, the acquisition, exploration and development of mineral properties requires significant expenditures prior to the commencement of production. To date, the Corporation has financed

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its activities through the sale of equity securities and joint venture arrangements. The Corporation expects to use similar financing techniques in the future. However, there can be no assurance that the Corporation will be successful with such financings. See "Plan of Operations".

At March 31, 2001, the Corporation had cash and cash equivalents of approximately \$147,000 compared to approximately \$102,000 at March 31, 2000. Working capital at March 31, 2001 was approximately \$104,000, sufficient, together with anticipated funds from the joint ventures on the El Pluma/Cerro Saavedra and Chubut properties, as estimated by management, to cover its budgeted expenditures for mineral property and exploration activities on its properties in Argentina and general and administrative expenses through the end of 2001. The Corporation's operating activities used approximately \$0.2 million in the first quarter of 2001 compared with approximately \$0.2 million in the first quarter of 2000. Investing activities provided approximately \$0.2 million (as a result of property option proceeds received in the quarter) in the first quarter of 2001 compared with approximately \$0.4 million used in the first quarter of 2000, with focus in both periods being on the El Pluma/Cerro Saavedra property. Cash and cash equivalents increased in the first quarter by approximately \$45,000 in 2001 compared with approximately \$371,000 in the same period in 2000.

The recoverability of amounts shown as mineral properties and deferred exploration costs is dependent upon the existence of economically recoverable reserves, the ability of the Corporation to obtain necessary financing to complete their development, and future profitable production or disposition thereof. The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared using accounting principles generally accepted in Canada applicable to a going concern. The use of such principles may not be appropriate because, as of March 31, 2001, there was significant doubt that the Corporation would be able to continue as a going concern.

For the three months ended March 31, 2001, the Corporation had a loss of approximately \$114,000 and an accumulated deficit of approximately \$14.4 million. In addition, due to the nature of the mining business, the acquisition, exploration and development of mineral properties requires significant expenditures prior to the commencement of production. To date, the Corporation has financed its activities through the sale of equity securities and joint venture arrangements. The Corporation expects to use similar financing techniques in the future and is actively pursuing such additional sources of financing.

Although there is no assurance that the Corporation will be successful in these actions, management believes that they will be able to secure the necessary financing to enable it to continue as a going concern. Accordingly, these financial statements do not reflect adjustments to the carrying value of assets and liabilities, the reported revenues and expenses and balance sheet classifications used that would be necessary if the going concern assumption were not appropriate. Such adjustments could be material.

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PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K

- a. Exhibits: None
- b. Reports on Form 8-K: None

SIGNATURES

In accordance with the requirements of the Exchange Act, the registrant caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

MINERA ANDES INC.

Date: May 14, 2001

By: /s/ Allen V. Ambrose

Allen V. Ambrose
President

By: /s/ Bonnie L. Kuhn

Bonnie L. Kuhn
Secretary and Chief Financial Officer