

006379

Ross River Coal Project

Report on 1987 Gild Work

Coal Lease Numbers 2984, 2985 + 2986

Whitehorse Mining District

N.T.S. 105 F 15, 16

By:

C. L. McAttee

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Introduction

In June 1987 a geological mapping project was carried out to assess the coal potential of the area.

Two seams, the 2.74^{metre} thick Upper seam (1.75 metre upper + 0.99 metre middle seam) and 1.67 metre Lower seam are being mined at present. The stratigraphy in the 1987 pit area is shown in diagrammatic fashion (Fig. 1). Previous work in the area included rotary drilling (974.3 metres in 13 holes) in 1980 and minor bulldozer trenching in 1980, with follow up bulldozer trenching ~~done~~ in 1981 (Adamson, 1981).

Geology 20-11-09. D.D. Hub

Geologic mapping was carried out at a scale of 1:4,000. Traverses were run using the Ross River road (highway #8) and the Gava-Ross River power line as control.

One to thirty metres of overburden covers the area.

Outcrops are scarce since one to thirty metres of glacial overburden cover the area. The only rock types which outcrop are the conglomerate and conglomeritic sandstone, which form short cliffs, knolls, and ridges. The shales, mudstones, siltstones, and sandstones are recessive rock types and only show up in trenches, road cuts, and cat roads.

Several new coal occurrences were mapped in the area north of Whiskers Lake.

Near the southwest corner of the 'Bante building' ~~is a~~ ^a 30 cm coal seam is in contact with a near vertical salt and pepper sandstone. The area has been disturbed by construction so it is hard to see what rocks are in place.

Approximately 120 metres east of core

dull hole 80-RR-05, small chips of
coal occurs in soil to a few metres south
of a salt and pepper sandstone outcrop.
It is possible that this is the same
seam as seen near the Bante building,
since the two occurrences are basically
on strike with each other.

It was found that the seam is
very thin and is likely to be
discontinuous. It is possible
that the seam is a continuation
of the seam seen near the Bante
building. The seam is about
10 cm thick and is composed
of very fine coal. It is
likely to be a continuation
of the seam seen near the
Bante building.

The seam is very thin and
is likely to be discontinuous.

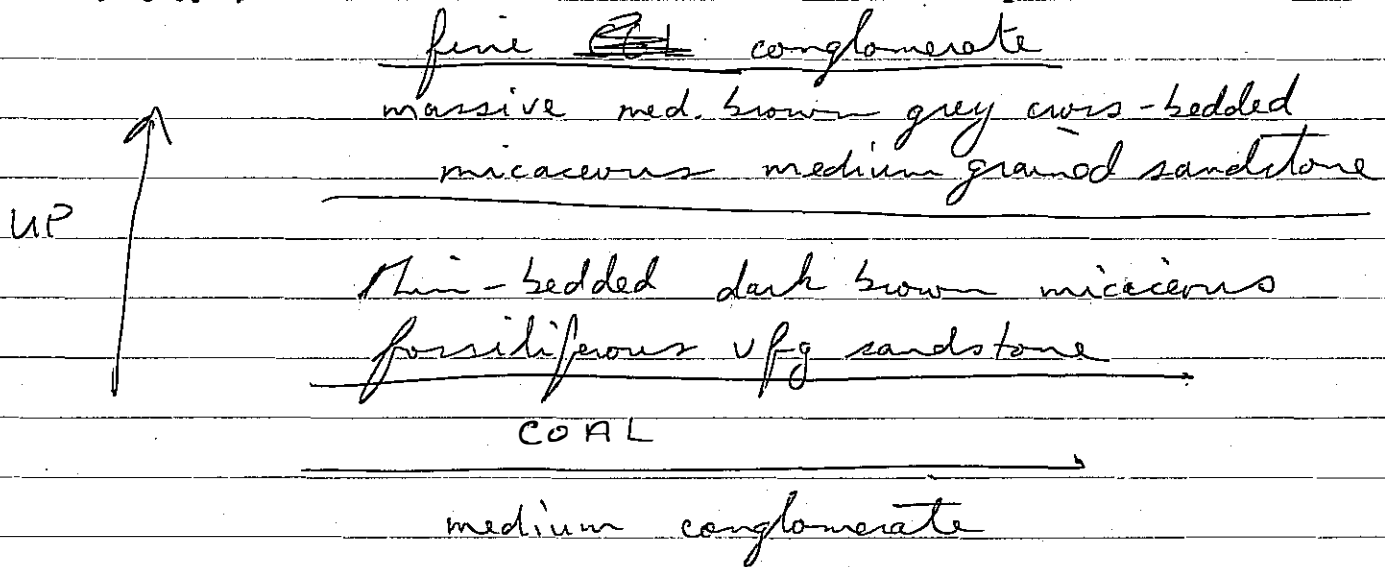
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is likely to be discontinuous.

In the area between holes 80-RR-01 and 80-RR-08 and approximately 120 metres north of the main road, coal chips ^{occur} in soil between outcrops of conglomerate. Also, due south of here, 30 m of muddy (poor) coal ^{on the same road,} occurs in outcrop. ~~between~~

In the northeast corner of coal lease # 2986, coal chips were found ~~under~~ ~~the~~ on the power line access road. It is possible that the coal ~~was~~ seam occurs between a medium conglomerate and thin-bedded dark brown micaceous fossiliferous vfg sandstone as ~~follows~~ illustrated below.



This may be the north-easterly extension of the coal seams now being mined, as the stratigraphy is similar and the coal ~~strip~~ ~~area~~ is more or less on strike.

The coal seams outcropping in trenches and cuts on coal lease # 2984 were examined. The ~~seams~~ here No outcrop was found ~~in~~ north of these trenches and cuts. ~~There coal seams~~

A coal seam several metres thick is underlain by two 0.4 to 1 metre seams. The ~~rocks~~ rocks in this area are contorted and sheared with dips changing from 19° to 65° in a very short distance. The ~~coal seams~~ down dip extension of the coal seams is most likely under the lake to the south.

The stratigraphy of this area consists of a thick sequence of conglomerates, sandstones, siltstones, shales, and mudstones. No good marker beds were found in the field, making correlations tenuous if not impossible.

Discussion & Recommendations

~~It is quite possible that several new
coal seams~~

~~Coal seams~~

It was observed in the field that the ^{coal} seams now being mined outcrop as only small 50 x 50 cm patches of coal chips in the soil. The ~~new~~ new coal occurrences mentioned above, then, could possibly be the surface expressions of coal seams up to 2 metres thick. Bulldozer ~~trench~~ or backhoe trenching is probably the most economical method to test these areas. Access is very good due to the road and hydro line system in the area.

Drilling could be carried out in the area between the pit and the Ross River road in order to test the down dip extension of the coal seams.

COAL
Samples taken.

June 1987
C. Miller

CS 001 Channel sample of Upper Coal
Seam. Actual thickness
175 cms. Sample taken over
175 cm coal only.

002 Channel sample of 'middle' Coal
Seam previously lumped with
upper coal seam. 99 cm
of massive very dark grey.
Somewhat micaceous mudstone
separate the upper and 'middle'
coal seams. Actual thickness
of middle coal here 95 ^{cm} ~~cm~~.
The coal probably contains
~~003~~ up to 25% coaly mudstone.

003 Channel sample of Lower Coal Seam
Actual thickness calculated to be
167 cm.

Sample locations plotted on 1:4,000
map.
also see x-section #1