

TDH/3

14th March, 1955.

MEMORANDUM:

On 10th instant, in company with Messrs. L. Heyward and G. Fitzallen of Avoca I visited the area adjacent to the old "Leona Tin Mine" in which Mr. F.A. Milne of Woodbury claimed he and the other two men had discovered torbernite.

However in discussion with all three they stated that they had not identified torbernite but merely got a count with their counter of many times background.

A fairly coarse-grained granite is exposed in an old gravel pit some 100 yards to the north of the South Esk River near the old Leona Tin Mine, about 4 miles north east of Avoca. The men have put a few shots into this rock and I tried it with an Austronic PRM 200 Geiger Counter for Gamma Radiation. The count showed 200 per minute or about 3 times background which is not unusual for this type of granite. There was no sign of any uranium minerals.

I was accompanied by Mr. B. Walpole of the Bureau of Mineral Resources who tried the material with a Harwell Ratemeter which records Beta as well as Gamma rays. This showed no appreciable increase in the Beta count over the Gamma, indicating the absence of sensible amounts of uranium minerals.

Sgd. Terence D. Hughes

GEOLOGIST

Director of Mines,  
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HOBART

Forwarded through the Chief Geologist.