

11th October, 1955

MEMORANDUMHamilton Coal Company

On the 6th instant I visited Hamilton to discuss with the Manager, Mr. Sonners, and Mr. N.R. Fenton of Stanhope the future development of this Company. The present workings are at about 2000 feet from the adit mouth and the condition of the Main Road is such that it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep it open.

After an examination of portion of the workings a perusal of the Company's plans and results of boring, and a discussion with the Underground Manager certain conclusions were reached.

Three areas suggest themselves as possible development sites.

- I. To the north-west of and by continuation of the main adit. At 270 feet from the entrance, the main leading branches to the south and a block of ground is available by a continuation of the adit. Two bores have been put down into this ground and they both show a great increase in the width of the centre band of stone. This width is confirmed by reports of some old workings in the vicinity where it was found that the band greatly increased to the north. Thus although this block would be close to the main entrance, and it would not be very difficult to pick up the fallen ground, the width of this band (on the evidence available) seems to preclude the economic winning of the coal.
- II. A large area of the coal measures exists immediately to the east of the worked ground. However, I have been informed by the Company representatives that tests here by shafts, etc., have revealed that the coal almost completely lenses out in this direction.
- III. The best part of the seam exposed in the workings occurs where the present operations are being carried out, to the south-west, and this is the area where future development must take place. However, as already pointed out, the condition of the roof of the main leading is so bad that it will be necessary to put in another entrance to develop this coal. Before this is done however, I should recommend:
 1. A survey line should be run from the south-west limit of the present workings and that point marked on the surface.
 2. A contour plan of the area covered by a radius of about 2000 feet from this point be prepared.

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From this information the position of an inclined adit could be planned and the theoretical depth to the coal seam estimated. However, due to rolling, minor faulting and other structural features this figure would be theoretical only and if possible a couple of drill holes should be put down to confirm this.

This Department will be able to undertake the survey work.

Sgd. Terence D. Hughes

GEOLOGIST

The Director of Mines,
Department of Mines,
HOBART
Tasmania.