

UR 1957/185

SHEFFIELD, 17th September, 1957.

MEMORANDUM:CLAY DEPOSITS AT BELL MT GOLDFIELD

Attached please find copy of a report by Mr. K. Burns on the Clay deposits at Bell Mt. goldfield submitted to the Department by Mr. M.A. Good for testing.

As pointed out in this report only a limited number of outcrops of the clay exist. Mr. G. Fowles conducted an extensive search of the area (less than 300 acres) and it is extremely unlikely that any undiscovered exposures exist.

Also, the clay is everywhere covered by a sandy wash varying in thickness from 2 feet upwards. It is, therefore, difficult to establish precise boundaries for the clay deposit. The depth of the deposit is also unknown and will depend largely upon its origin. It is impossible to formulate any definite ideas on the origin or extent of the deposit, beyond those suggested in the report, without subsurface explorations.

Such explorations are hardly warranted at this stage until the clay has been subjected fully to laboratory tests. It has been suggested by Mr. Good that the overlying wash may contain sufficient gold to pay for its removal. Limited prospecting of the wash by Mr. Fowles does not support this view, however a good deal of further work could well be carried out.

Mr. Good stated that samples of this clay were at one time forwarded to the Paper Mills at Burnie for testing but were found to be unsatisfactory.

/s/

(I.B. Jennings)
REGIONAL GEOLOGIST.

The Director of Mines,
Department of Mines,
HOBART.