

*Abstract*

A few scattered outcrops of poor quality coal can be found in the lithic sandstone sequence of the Upper Parmeener Super-Group in the Bagdad area. North of Kempton, a Department of Mines diamond-drill hole intersected a 2.3 m thick seam of coal of good quality. There has been no production from any of these minor coal occurrences.

## LOCATION AND ACCESS

The area is situated between the towns of Bagdad [EN182800] and Kempton [EN910163] which are 39 km and 49 km respectively by road from Hobart. Access is from the Midland Highway and numerous secondary roads which traverse the area.

## GENERAL GEOLOGY

The geology of the area has been mapped by Leaman (1975). The fluvial lithic sandstone sequence of the Upper Parmeener Super-Group crops out in scattered localities throughout the area. Coal outcrops occur in a number of road cuttings on the Midland Highway between the two towns although no outcrops suitable for sampling were found during a field inspection. The coal is invariably weathered, banded and of poor quality.

## COAL QUALITY

Few coal analyses are available from this area

	1	2
Moisture (%)	18.46	7.1
Ash (%)	33.94	14.5
Volatile matter (%)	23.74	27.2
Fixed carbon (%)	23.86	58.3
Total sulphur (%)	0.32	0.43
Specific energy (MJ/kg)		28.16

1. Spot sample of weathered coal from outcrop (Hills et al., 1922)
2. Whole seam (2.3 m thick) sample from DOM Mt Vernon DDH 1 (Bacon, 1983).

## PREVIOUS MINING HISTORY

No mining activity has been recorded in this area. Outcrops of coal in road cuttings were noted by Hills et al. (1922).

## RECENT EXPLORATION

In 1982 the Department drilled one hole (DOM Mt Vernon DDH 1) near Kempton as part of a gravity survey. Several coal seams were intersected in this hole. Details of the seam intersections are given in Bacon (1983). Coal from one of the seams intersected in this hole was examined petrographically and the results are shown in Figures 1 and 2. The coal is petrographically similar to other Tasmanian Triassic black coals, being very rich in inertinite and having a high concentration of semifusinite and inertodetrinite. The area was investigated in 1984 by an exploration

company and several chip holes were drilled. The area is currently held under exploration licence.

FUTURE POTENTIAL

The potential of this coalfield to yield reserves of coal of economic importance is small. However the 2.3 m thick seam encountered in DOM Mt Vernon DDH 1 is of interest as although the seam is deep, the quality is surprisingly good. The lateral extent of this seam is not known.

REFERENCES

BACON, C.A. 1983. Coal intersections in a drill hole near Kempton. *Unpubl.Rep.Dep.Mines Tasm.* 1983/33.

HILLS, C.L.; REID, A.M.; NYE, P.B.; KEID, H.G.W.; REID, W.D. 1922. The coal resources of Tasmania. *Miner.Resour.geol.Surv.Tasm.* 7

LEAMAN, D.E. 1975. Geological atlas 1:50 000 series. Zone 7 sheet 75 (8312N). Brighton. *Department of Mines, Tasmania.*

[4 July 1985]

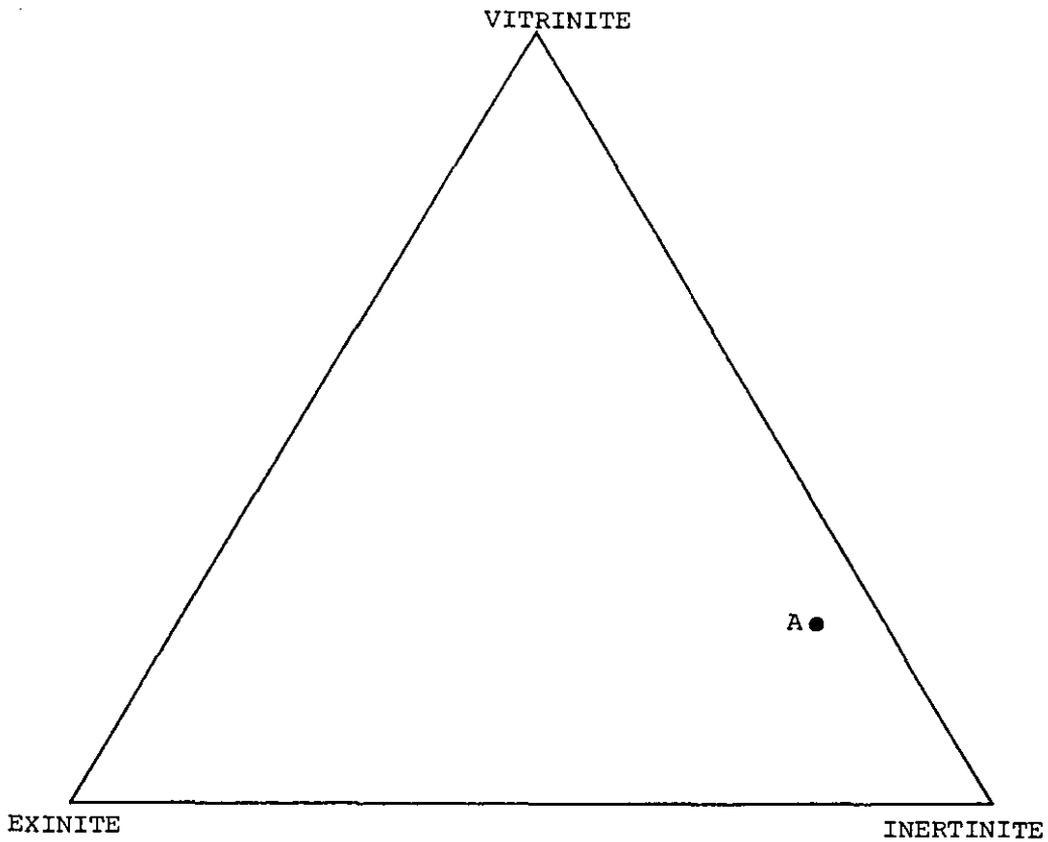


Figure 1. Maceral composition, Mt Vernon DDH 1, Seam A.

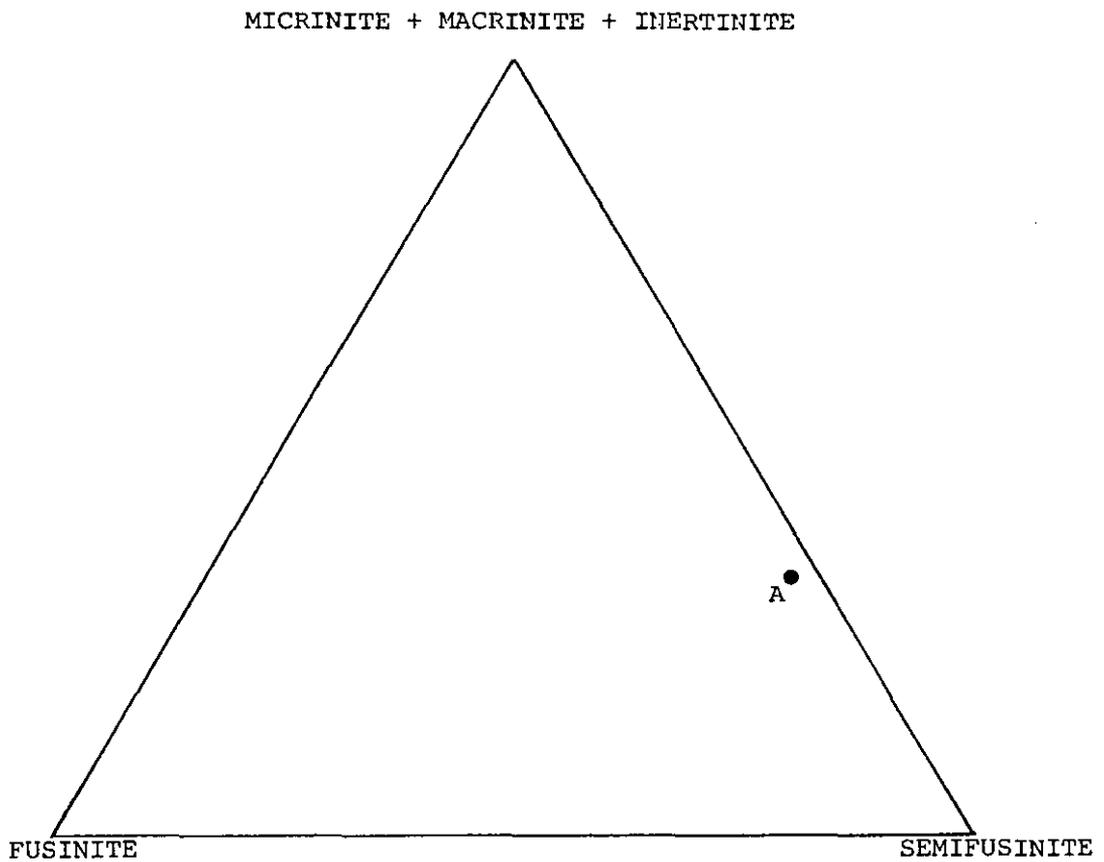


Figure 2. Inertinite components, Mt Vernon DDH 1, Seam A.

30-3

5 cm