

NOTE.—All communications on Departmental business to be Addressed to the Director of Mines, Box 124 B, G.P.O., Hobart.



Department of Mines, Tasmania

Hobart, 11th September, 1969.

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Chief Geologist,
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The core from ESSO-BHP Clam No. 1 has been examined with the object of indicating similarities with other rock types in NW Tasmania.

Core 3, 2846'-2848' : This consists of free pebbles of well rounded vein quartz and quartzite. Gravel layers containing such pebbles are common in the Tertiary Terrestrial deposits of N and NW Tasmania. A thin section of a quartzite with a granular texture shows it to be an orthoquartzite, consisting of well rounded and well sorted quartz grains with a quartz cement in optical continuity. Such material forms a large part of the Proterozoic Rocky Cape Group in NW Tasmania, and a Precambrian basement provenance is indicated.

Core 4, 3158'-3166' : This is a carbonaceous sandstone and siltstone, in part lignite, containing abundant carbonised plant stem fragments. Similar material occurs in the Tertiary in N Tasmania where it is usually beneath the Miocene basalts and is considered to be a lacustrine deposit.

Core 5, 4479'-4484' : Conglomeratic red-beds. No material of this nature is known from anywhere in Tasmania.

4485'-4489' : Similar material to previous red beds. Some of the fragments are of deeply weathered medium-grained igneous rocks, but these are unlike the Devonian granites, Jurassic dolerites or the Tertiary basalts of Tasmania. A thin section of one rounded fragment is a greywacke containing clastic fragments of quartz, quartzite, chert, sericitised feldspar, claystone fragments and muscovite flakes. This is again unlike anything in NW Tasmania.