



# MITRE GEOPHYSICS PTY LTD

MINERAL EXPLORATION AND ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS

BUGGS LANE ELLIOTT TASMANIA 7325 PHONE 004-363143

A SUMMARY REPORT ON THE

SANDY CAPE AEROMAGNETIC

SURVEY, E.L. 56/80

for

ELECTROLYTIC ZINC COMPANY OF AUSTRALASIA LIMITED

West Coast Mines

by

DR. J.R. BISHOP

EZ/MG82/01

JANUARY, 1982

02\_4799

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## ABSTRACT

A detailed aeromagnetic survey (200m line spacing, 100m sensor altitude) was flown over E.L. 56/80 in 1981. Exploration on the lease is primarily for tin and it was hoped that the survey would locate carbonate replacement (pyrrhotite + cassiterite) bodies or magnetic skarn deposits. The Devonian (and mineralised) Pieman Heads granitic batholith outcrops within the lease.

The survey has clearly defined a number of discrete, low amplitude (mostly less than 100 $\gamma$ ) anomalies: many define, or conform to a NW-SE trend and are interpreted as being due to magnetic rock units. One anomaly which is conformable but which is of limited strike length and is isolated from other anomalies (and thus is possibly due to a replacement of sediments by pyrrhotite) is SC10, a 240 $\gamma$  anomaly 3kms east of Sandy Cape. This is considered to be the most prospective anomaly. A similar, but incompletely defined, anomaly is SC27 on the lease's southern boundary.

An E.M. survey (Input) was flown over the area (as part of a much larger survey) in 1973; coverage was regional with line spacings, in places, greater than 2km. A strong anomaly was recorded about 150m east of SC10 over black shales; this may be close enough to mask any conductive response that SC10 may have. No other dominant aeromagnetic anomalies were associated with E.M. responses, although Input flight lines went over, or were near, several (e.g. anomalies 20, 22 and 27). Two near-coincident Input anomalies coincided with a relatively weak magnetic anomaly, SC15b which has an amplitude of 30 $\gamma$ .

Although SC10 and SC27 are apparently the most prospective responses, one interpretation of the magnetics puts the granite boundary alongside these anomalies: this may considerably reduce their potential. SC20 would be similarly affected while SC26 would remain at the contact. Massive sulphide replacement bodies are less likely on the contact, where the higher temperatures favour skarn mineralisation. But unfortunately magnetic anomalies due to hornfels are also common around the edge of many granites. Another possibility for these anomalies is that they are due to Tertiary dykes following faults conformable with the NW-SE strike direction.



Notwithstanding the above, SC10 and then SC27 are considered to be the most prospective of the twenty seven anomalies recognised and SC20 and 26 follow. However the interpretation of these anomalies is very dependent upon the true position of the granite contact being determined.

Other anomalies have been chosen for their (relatively) larger amplitudes (category 5 below); on other information (category 6); or for not fitting the regional NW-SE strike direction. These category 7 anomalies may define faults or fractures (possible sites for hydrothermal mineralisation). Lastly, a weak zone of anomalies that occurs within (the mapped boundaries of) the granite may indicate a favourable site for disseminated tin mineralisation. The anomalies are listed below in order of priority for further exploration. Anomalies not listed are considered to be solely due to magnetic rock units.

- |    |                                   |
|----|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | 10.                               |
| 2. | 27.                               |
| 3. | 20b.                              |
| 4. | 26.                               |
| 5. | 9, 22.                            |
| 6. | 15b.                              |
| 7. | 2, 7, 8, 19, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15a. |

21 (a, b, c) - A zone within the granite.



## AIM AND INTRODUCTION

A detailed aeromagnetic survey was flown over Sandy Cape, E.L. 56/80, by Georex in January, 1981. The survey was flown in conjunction with a survey over E.L. 52/80 near Smithton. The exploration target in both E.L.'s is primarily for tin: a brief report of the (disappointing) results of the Smithton survey has been written by Bishop (1981). In that report it was noted that an aeromagnetic survey should detect any significant pyrrhotite-cassiterite (carbonate-replacement) deposits or magnetic skarns. Both types of mineralisation are regarded as being intimately associated with granitic rocks and such a rock type occurs within E.L. 56/80: this is the Pieman Heads granitic batholith which is known to be mineralised (with tin and tungsten, Green, 1975).

The most detailed geological map of the area is that of the Mines Dept., 1:250,000 series and this shows that most of the lease has not been mapped: the area is shown as undifferentiated PreCambrian "comparatively unmetamorphosed mudstone-sandstone sequences". The southernmost 1-2kms of the lease has been mapped and this is shown as "dominantly orthoquartzite". Black shales are also known to occur in the area (see below). The Pieman Heads batholith (dominantly adamellite-granite) outcrops at Sandy Cape, and as a belt up to 5km wide from the coast, south of Sandy Cape to the lease boundary (continuing to the Pieman River 15km to the south). Alluvium overlies much of the coastal edge of the lease (to a maximum width of about 3.5kms). Figure 1 shows the geology from the 1:250,000 series enlarged to 1:50,000: the PreCambrian sediments have not been differentiated.

A massive pyrrhotite (-cassiterite) orebody would be conductive and skarns may be so. An airborne E.M. survey (Input) was flown over the area in 1973. This was part of a much larger survey over E.L. 2/73, held by Esso Aust. Ltd.. The Input anomalies have been superimposed onto the geology map (Figure 1), where it can be seen that in places, the flight line spacing was over 2km. The positioning of the Input anomalies is probably poor; the original maps showed little geographical detail and no co-ordinates. (However Input anomaly PR6-1 had a magnetic high "some 500ft to the west" (Anon., 1973b), and this closely agrees with the easting position of aeromagnetic anomaly SC10.) The survey was apparently flown for a massive-sulphide volcanogenic target, since if any anomaly was found to occur over sediments, no further work was recommended (M.J. Smith, (Esso geophysicist) pers. commun. and Anon., 1973b). The lease was relinquished by



Esso soon after the survey was flown, however some limited follow up was carried out. This was by helicopter: in several instances black shales were found; in others, there was no outcrop; and at some anomalies the helicopter could not land.

The aim of this summary report is to identify the anomalies resulting from the aeromagnetic survey and to produce a list for follow-up. The Input results were considered when deciding the order of priority.

## RESULTS

Geoex Pty. Ltd., flew an aeromagnetic (fixed wing) survey over E.L. 56/80 in January, 1981. The flight line spacing (east-west lines) was nominally 200m with a magnetometer altitude of 100m. 1,116kms of data were processed; this was presented as contour maps at 1:10,000 with a 5% contour interval and as line profiles, also at 1:10,000. The contour maps have been reduced to 1:50,000 and redrafted onto one sheet (Figure 2). Four channel radiometric spectrometer data was also recorded, but this data was not processed: it can be examined on the analog records.

There is no pronounced regional gradient or dominating feature in the results and the survey defined a number of discrete anomalies which are easily identified. Twenty seven anomalies have been listed (Table 1.): this includes a number of zones, most of which define a NW-SE strike and are probably due to (magnetic) rock units. The maximum amplitude recorded was about 240%. Most anomalies are between 50 and 100%, and are similar in shape, character and interpreted depth to source (around) 200m. This suggests a similar cause for most anomalies and the conformity of many of the anomalies to zones suggest a series of NW-SE trending, rather weakly magnetic, lithological sequences. Some of the anomalies not conforming to this trend may define cross cutting faults. Alternatively some of the dislocations and apparent east-west trends may be due to positioning errors: this is particularly noticeable near the coastline, where there are some 'herringbone' contours.

Despite the general uniformity of the anomalies, there is one isolated anomaly which stands out; this is anomaly SC10. Another weaker anomaly is SC27



which is only partly defined, being right on the survey (and lease) boundary. SC10 has two peaks, 10a and 10b, with amplitudes of about 180γ and 240γ respectively; this latter anomaly was the largest recorded by the survey. SC10 and SC27 (the latter where outlined) are the only two well-defined, isolated anomalies. They are also conformable to the NW-SE strike defined by the several magnetic zones (see Figure 2). Assuming that these magnetic trends define geologic strike, the causes of SC10 and SC27 are not inconsistent with pyrrhotite replacement of part of a non-magnetic sedimentary sequence. The strike length of SC10 is over 1km (as defined by the half amplitude distance); SC27's is at least 0.7km. (Obviously too long a strike length would down-grade an anomaly's prospectiveness.) SC10 is no more than 3.6km from outcropping granite and is probably much closer (alluvium overlies the granite and the granite contact to the west of SC10): SC27 is less than 2.4km from the granite contact. These distances were taken from Figure 1 (the geological map). But from the magnetic contour map the granite boundary is readily positioned so that these anomalies are right on the contact; such anomalies would be typical of (unprospective) hornfels (see later).

There is an excellent Input anomaly, PR6-1, (registered on all six channels<sup>1</sup>) which is apparently associated with SC10, but it peaks some 150m to the east of the aeromagnetic anomaly; field examination showed it to be located over black shales (Anon., 1973b). Other E.M. anomalies were recorded to the north, and a nearly 5km long belt of black shales was interpreted by Esso. However the resolution of the Input system is relatively poor and it is quite possible that it would not be able to resolve two conductors 150m apart. Thus SC10 may have an E.M. response which has been obscured by the stronger response of black shales to the east. An Input flight line coincident with the southern boundary did not record any response over SC27.

Various simple rules for depth determination were tried on a profile over SC10b (bearing 60° AMG). These included Smellie's (1967) line of poles, line of dipoles etc; the half width rule, Peter's rule, etc (Riddell, 1966). Most values were close to 200m. The half width rule gave a depth of 250m<sup>2</sup> and this

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<sup>1</sup> EZ holds copies of the Input records which cover E.L. 56/80.

<sup>2</sup> Given the low flying height and probable significant width of the sources, the simple rules-of-thumb such as the half width rule (depth to the top of the source equals half of the width of the anomaly at half its height) which assume a single source, will give depth estimates which are consistently greater than the actual depth.



was used to calculate depths for some of the other anomalies (see Table 1). For SC27 a similar depth to SC10 was estimated (i.e. about 200m).

SC20 is a prominent anomaly within a NW-SE zone about 3kms long: it is about 1.4kms away from the granite contact. Its amplitude is 120% (to be compared with the 40 and 75% amplitudes of the other two peaks defining the zone). An Input flight line crossed the southern quarter of 20b, but no anomaly was recorded (the Input survey's magnetometer recorded an anomaly approximately coincident with the subsequently defined SC20b). SC20b was primarily chosen as a possible prospective target by virtue of its relatively high amplitude; it is not however an (absolutely) high amplitude anomaly (compare for example, the 'type orebody' in Bishop (1981) which had an amplitude of nearly 2000%, and the ground magnetic results over Renison which have recorded anomalies in excess of 5000% (Davidson et al, 1957)). The half width rule gave a depth estimate of about 260m for SC20b.

SC26 is situated on the granite contact and has an amplitude of upto 130% depending on what base level is used. An Input flight line crosses the peak of the anomaly, but no E.M. response was recorded. Because of interference from adjacent anomalies, no depth estimate was made.

The mapped outline of the granite is not readily discernible from the areomagnetic map, however there is a generally 'quiet' zone west of a line drawn between the anomalies discussed above: 10, 20, 26 and 27. This line which is shown on Figure 2 is interpreted as being the granite/sediment contact, rather than as indicated on the geologic map (Figure 1). The sediments on the coast in the south-west corner of the lease, and the increasing magnetic gradient to the west, indicate that the granite is probably a narrow tongue extending from the southern boundary lease to Sandy Cape.

The only anomaly within the granite (inside the boundaries of Figures 1 and 2) is SC21, a linear anomaly of about 50%, conforming to the general NW-SE trend. The anomaly may represent, for example, a different igneous phase or a volume of sediment within the granite. The former possibility is obviously more prospective, suggesting as it does a dome or cupola within the granite and hence a potential for a disseminated tin deposit. Follow-up of SC21 should include a search for signs of alteration characteristic of disseminated tin



mineralisation (e.g. Scott, 1981).

If the granite boundary is as suggested in Figure 2 and not as is shown in Figure 1 then anomalies 10, 20, 26 and 27, right on the contact, may be due to hornfelsing of the sediments. sources would not be prospective, however skarn mineralisation may give similar responses. A third possibility is a series of short tertiary basalt dykes following faults which conform to the general strike direction. Such faults have been interpreted in the general area by M. Ions (pers. comm.) and basalt boulders have been found near the coast at Sandy Cape (M. Ions and R. Morland, pers. comm.).

Other prominent anomalies include SC's 9 and 22. The former is a roughly circular anomaly in the north west corner of the lease, with a number of much smaller anomalies to the north and east. Its amplitude is 110 $\chi$  and estimated depth is about 225m: it lies between two Input flight lines. Although not an isolated anomaly, it does not conform to the general NW-SE strike. An east-west dislocation across the lease may occur just to the north of SC9 but alternatively, and perhaps more likely, this may be a location or processing error by the contractor. SC9 is less than 6kms from the granite. The latter anomaly, SC22, is a double peaked anomaly which, with anomalies 18a and 18b, forms part of a linear zone conformable with the NW-SE strike direction. Its amplitude is 110 $\chi$  and the estimated depth was 310-380m (depending on the base level chosen). Like SC9, its 'prospectiveness' is based largely on its amplitude. An Input flight line crossed the northern half of the anomaly, but no response was recorded. SC22 is about 2.5km from the granite contact.

Other anomalies which may be of interest are those which do not conform to the NW-SE trend (by either defining a different strike direction, or by lack of any definite direction). The following anomalies are in this category (listed from the north): SC7 with an east-west strike direction; SC8 an isolated north-south anomaly; SC's 12 and 13 (an east-west dislocation on their northern side?); SC11(?); SC19 with a NE-SW strike which lines up with 15a.

The Input survey produced several anomalies within the lease; apart from the response close to SC10 (PR6-1), two near-coincident anomalies occur over the low amplitude (30 $\chi$ ) anomaly SC15b. The anomalies, five and four channel responses, designated PR6-4 by the contractor and X3 by Esso, are not mentioned by



Anon. (1973b). In the progress report (Anon. 1973a), the anomaly was recommended for follow-up but this may not have been carried out. The E.M. anomalies suggest a bedrock conductor.

The three channel anomaly PR6-3 occurs to the south of SC13; this poor E.M. anomaly was considered to have a surficial origin, and "the geology is inferred to be sediments as no outcrop occurs at the anomaly location". Hence no further work was recommended (Anon. 1973b). Similarly for the very similar E.M. anomaly to the south of SC14. Other anomalies are not located near to any magnetic responses and are not considered (for the type of target sought) prospective: X24 to the east of SC8 was considered to have a surficial source and no outcrop was found in a follow-up examination; PR6-2 to the southeast of SC10 was a low amplitude, four channel anomaly which was found to occur over black shales; a series of anomalies along the coastal edge were interpreted as being due to invasion of seawater along fractures etc., this includes anomaly PR6-5 which is 1.8km from the coast and over fractured granodiorite (Anon. 1973b).

#### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This relatively detailed aeromagnetic survey has defined a number of discrete anomalies, of these SC10, an isolated anomaly with the largest amplitude (240γ) is considered to be the most prospective. A possibly similar, but incompletely defined anomaly is SC27 on the southern lease boundary. An Input survey showed no E.M. anomaly over SC27, but there is a possibility that any response from SC10 has been obscured by a strong anomaly (PR6-1) over black shales 150m to the east.

An alternative position of the granite boundary can be interpreted from the character of the magnetics: this puts anomalies 10 and 27 together with 20 and 26 right on the contact. Although a carbonate replacement body is presumably still a possibility, higher-temperature skarn mineralisation is more likely. Perhaps even more probable, and more disappointing, is that the anomalies are due to hornfels. Thus these targets' prospectiveness are perhaps largely dependent on the true position of the granite boundary.



Other targets have been picked mainly on the basis of their larger amplitudes; anomalies 9, 20b and 22 all have amplitudes over 100%. No E.M. responses were recorded by the Input survey on lines over the latter two anomalies (no flight line was close enough to SC9 to test it).

SC15b is a weak magnetic response (30%) but it has two Input anomalies associated with it; these were apparently not investigated by Esso, although this was recommended (Anon. 1973a).

Most anomalies (including those mentioned above) define or conform to a NW-SE striking series of (weakly magnetic) zones. Anomalies which do not conform to this pattern may be due to faults, fractures, etc, and these may be regarded as potential sites (particularly for skarn mineralisation). Such anomalies include (in a geographical list from the north) 2(?), 7, 8, 9, 11(?), 12, 13, 14, 15a(?), 19, 25. The zone of SC20 anomalies conform to the strike direction but occur within the granite.

In Table 1 are listed all the anomalies labelled in Figure 2: the amplitudes and locations are also given. For some anomalies (not necessarily the most prospective) a depth estimate is given, calculated from the half width rule: it is emphasised that the point-pole assumption of this rule is not likely to apply here and the actual depths are probably less.

Below the 'prospective' anomalies are listed in order of priority.

1. 10.
2. 27.
3. 20b.
4. 26.
5. 9, 22.
6. 15b.
7. 2, 7, 8, 19, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15a.

---

21(a, b, c): A zone within the granite, possibly a site for a disseminated tin deposit.

Presumably regional stream sediment samples will be assayed for tin and thus the order of follow-up of the above anomalies will depend on these results.



Most importantly, the location of the eastern granite boundary must be determined.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A Meeting was held at Rosebery to discuss the Smithton and Sandy Cape aeromagnetic results. Apart from myself, I.R. McDonald, J.H.A. Mill, R. Morland and N.F. Rutherford were present: their contributions considerably assisted the writing of this report.

J.R. BISHOP  
JANUARY, 1982

JRB/amd

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TABLE 1 - LIST OF ANOMALIES (in roughly geographical order from the north)

Anomaly	Approx. Amplitude <sup>1</sup>	Location <sup>2</sup> (AMG)	Depth <sup>3</sup>	Comments
SC1	40/80	322,200mE 5,418,500mN		
SC2	85/140	324,000mE 5,417,800mN	300m	A large circular anomaly, has a low priority.
SC3a	25/50	321,100mE 5,418,350mN		
SC3b	30/55	321,300mE 5,417,600mN		
SC4a	60	319,650mE 5,418,900mN		
SC4b	55	320,100mE 5,417,800mN	200m	Part of a NW-SE zone - a magnetic rock unit?.
SC4c	45/80	320,600mE 5,416,950mN		
SC5	50	319,650mE 5,416,750mN		
SC6a	55	323,100mE 5,416,750mN		
SC6b	45	323,500mE 5,416,350mN	230m	A 'ridge high', NW-SE trend, a magnetic rock unit?
SC7	75	324,500mE 5,415,900mN	230m	A slight E-W trend; has a low priority.
SC8	85	321,400mE 5,415,600mN	260m	Isolated N-S anomaly has a low priority.
SC9	110	317,200mE 5,416,250mN	230m	Higher amplitude than average, with no obvious trend, has medium priority.

<sup>1</sup> Two values are given where different base levels have been taken.

<sup>2</sup> May not refer to peak value if anomaly is elongate or double peaked.

<sup>3</sup> Below flight height: approximate estimate only, using half-width rule.



TABLE 1 (Cont.)

SC10a	180	316,000mE 5,412,800mN	200m	Isolated anomaly has highest priority.
SC10b	240	316,350mE 5,412,300mN	200m	Isolated anomaly, has highest priority.
SC11	30	318,500mE 5,412,300mN		
SC12	60/100	321,200mE 5,412,650mN		
SC13	60/100	322,350mE 5,412,750mN		
SC14	40	323,600mE 5,412,400mN	240m	Low priority.
SC15a	75/90	324,400mE 5,411,400mN	250m	Low priority.
SC15b	35	325,000mE 5,410,000mN		Coincident EM anomalies, medium priority.
SC16a	40/75	322,300mE 5,411,000mN		
SC16b	55/80	323,250mE 5,409,450mN		
SC17	75	320,950mE 5,411,350mN		
SC18a	50/70	321,100mE 5,410,450mN		
SC18b	55	321,600mE 5,409,550mN		
SC19	40	319,900mE 5,409,800mN		
SC20a	75	318,300mE 5,410,500mN		
SC20b	120	318,700mE 5,409,750mN	260m	High priority.
SC20c	40/60	319,000mE 5,409,000mN		
SC21a	40/60	317,300mE 5,408,750mN		

TABLE 1 (Cont.)

SC21b	45	317,800mE 5,408,200mN	310m	Occurs over granite.
SC21c	50	317,900mE 5,407,550mN		
SC22	110	322,400mE 5,407,600mN	350m	Medium priority.
SC23a	80	324,400mE 5,408,200mN		
SC23b	75	325,200mE 5,405,450mN	>500m	
SC24	75/95	327,000mE 5,407,700mN		
SC25	140	322,700mE 5,406,000mN	>500m	
SC26	70/130	321,500mE 5,405,000mN		Medium priority.
SC27	120	326,400mE 5,402,950mN	225m	High priority.



02\_4799

A Summary Report on the Sandy Cape Aeromagnetic Survey  
 Prepared by the  
 Electrolytic Zinc Company of Australasia Limited, Mt  
 Bleasop, J.R.  
 EL56/1980

ELECTROLYTIC ZINC CO. OF A'ASIA. LTD.  
 PROJECT: SANDY CAPE EL 56/80 TAS.

694017

SANDY CAPE

GEOLOGY & INPUT ANOMALIES

5 cm

SCALE 1:50 000	Survey	Revised
Reference EZ/M682/OI	Date JANUARY 1982	
Drawn T.G.D.S.	Checked	FIG. I

**INPUT LEGEND**

6 CHANNEL ANOMALY	
5 CHANNEL ANOMALY	
4 CHANNEL ANOMALY	
3 CHANNEL ANOMALY	
2 CHANNEL ANOMALY	
1 CHANNEL ANOMALY	
PEAK POSITION	
1st and 4th CHANNEL AMPLITUDES	
ALTITUDE ( FEET )	
COINCIDENT MAGNETIC ANOMALY (GAMMAS)	
OFFSET MAGNETIC ANOMALY	
CULTURAL ANOMALY (INTERPRETED)	
RESIDUAL ANOMALY (INTERPRETED)	
50 Hz WITH NORMAL ANOMALY	
50 Hz WITH ABNORMAL ANOMALY	

**INTERPRETATION LEGEND**

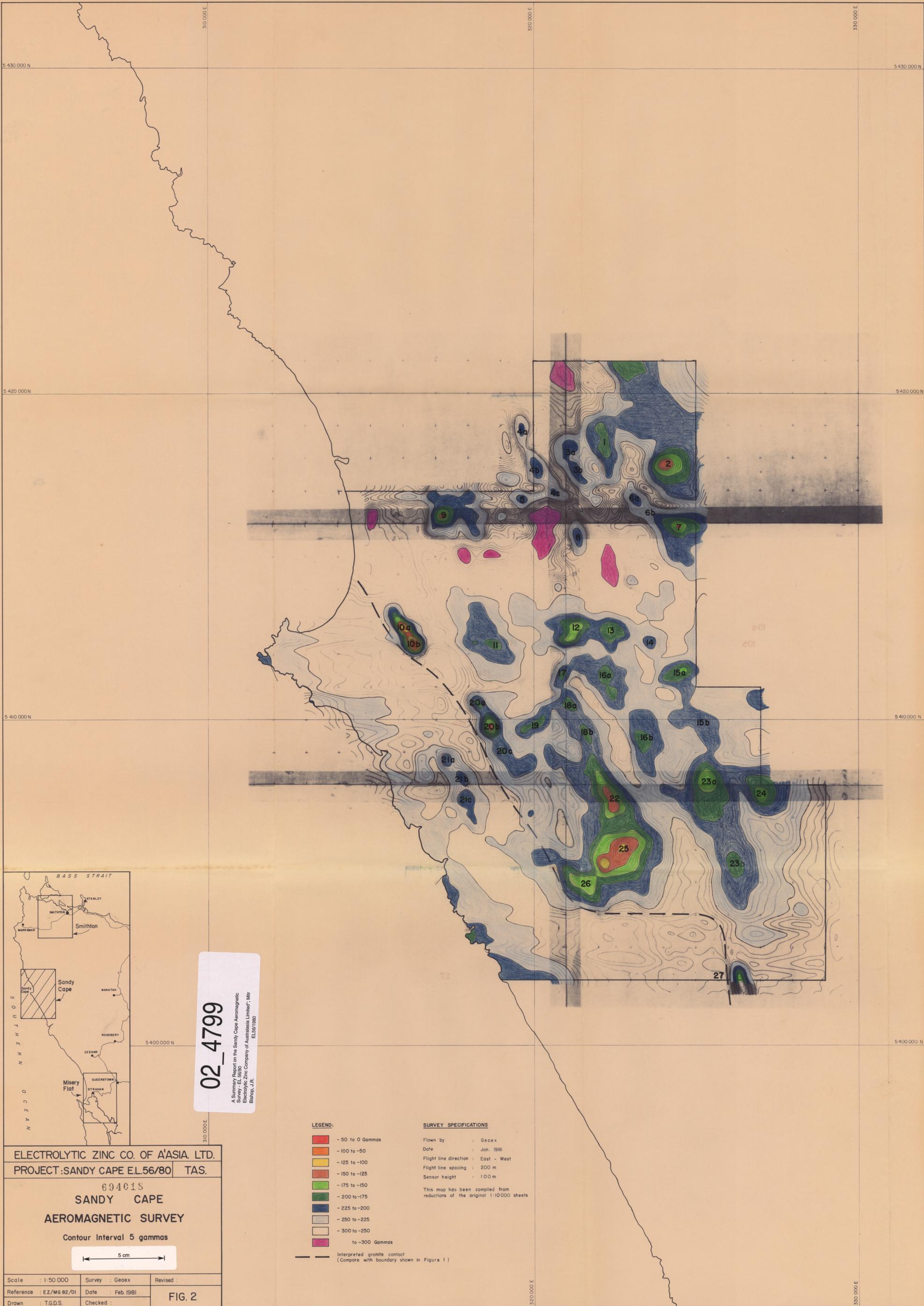
CONDUCTOR OUTLINE AND IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	
SELECTED CONDUCTOR	

INPUT SURVEY 1973 for Esso Aust. Ltd.

**GEOLOGY LEGEND**

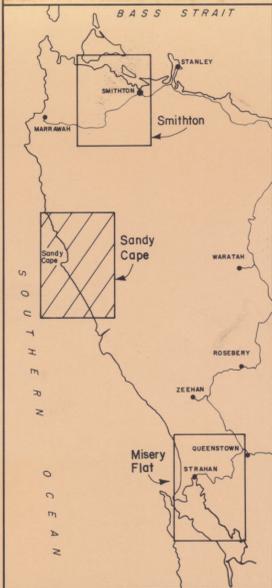
	Alluvium
	Tertiary Basalt
	Devonian Granite
	Precambrian Sediments
	Hinge of fold, showing plunge direction

Source of geology - Mines Dept. 1:250,000 SK55-3 (Burnie)



02\_4799

A Summary Report on the Sandy Cape Aeromagnetic  
Survey conducted by the  
Electrolytic Zinc Company of Australia Limited, Mr  
Blahop, J.R. EL56/1880



ELECTROLYTIC ZINC CO. OF A'ASIA. LTD.		
PROJECT: SANDY CAPE EL.56/80	TAS.	
694018		
<b>SANDY CAPE</b>		
<b>AEROMAGNETIC SURVEY</b>		
Contour Interval 5 gammas		
Scale : 1:50 000	Survey : Geox	Revised :
Reference : EZ/MG 82/01	Date : Feb. 1981	<b>FIG. 2</b>
Drawn : T.G.D.S.	Checked :	

- LEGEND:**
- 50 to 0 Gammas
  - 100 to -50
  - 125 to -100
  - 150 to -125
  - 175 to -150
  - 200 to -175
  - 225 to -200
  - 250 to -225
  - 300 to -250
  - to -300 Gammas

**SURVEY SPECIFICATIONS**

Flown by : Geox  
 Date : Jan. 1981  
 Flight line direction : East - West  
 Flight line spacing : 200 m  
 Sensor height : 100 m

This map has been compiled from reductions of the original 1:10 000 sheets

Interpreted granite contact  
 (Compare with boundary shown in Figure 1)