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**EL61/94 ARTHUR RIVER**  
**ANNUAL REPORT TO 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2006**

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Figure 1 Tenement locality map.

Figure 2 Geology and proposed access track



## **1. Summary**

- It is likely that coarse grained, lumpy, silica flour of good colour is widespread in EL61/94
- Construction of an access track and testing of the resource by excavator pitting and auger drilling is proposed.
- An extension of the term of the exploration licence will be necessary to allow this work.

## **2. Introduction**

EL61/94 is situated in the Arthur River district in north western Tasmania where it straddles the Blackwater Road about 7 km south of the Kanunnah Bridge. During its life the tenement has been reduced in area from 23km<sup>2</sup> to the 1km<sup>2</sup> contained in the present block (Turner, 1997; 2000). An extension of the term of the tenement was granted in 2005 in order to allow the assessment of deposits of silica flour that were recognized as potentially commercial late in the tenure of the licence. A further extension is necessary in order to complete this work.

## **3. Previous work**

A round of auger drilling in 2001 using B. Cox's Mole rig delineated an inferred resource of 90,000 tonnes of probably commercial silica flour on Blackwater No. 1 Spur Road (Turner, 2001), which is to the north of the current EL61/94. This resource was substantially upgraded to 209,160 tonnes in 2004 as a result of auger drilling with Stacpoole Drilling's newly available Geomeccanica 600 rig (Turner, 2005). Retention Licence 2/2005 has now been granted over the deposit, which is called Blackwater East. Drilling was not carried out during 2001 and 2004 in the block that comprises the current EL61/94 because of a lack of off road access.

## **4. Work in the current period**

Geological mapping was carried out along Blackwater Road and along the course of a tributary of Blackwater Rivulet. Spurs to the west and east of the tributary were also inspected.

## **5. Results**

A NNW striking belt of Smithton Dolomite some 650 m wide extends through EL61/94 (Figure 1) and continues along Blackwater No. 5 Spur Road, which is located about 1 km north of the tenement. The dolomite is similar to the Corinna Dolomite being pale grey in colour, granular, locally crystalline, fine grained, massive and strongly fractured. Much of the belt of dolomite is overlain by Tertiary sediments, particularly west of the tributary of Blackwater Rivulet. To the east of the tributary the Tertiary cover appears to be relatively minor and there is a 100 m long exposure of very pale grey, lumpy, coarse grained, silica flour in a

cutting on Blackwater Road. 'Tree-root' occurrences of similar flour were found to the northwest, also on the eastern side of the tributary of Blackwater Rivulet.

## **6. Conclusions and proposed work**

It is likely that coarse grained, lumpy, silica flour of good colour is widespread in EL61/94, but no thickness estimates of the flour have been made. There is scope for drilling on Blackwater Road to establish thickness of flour and of Tertiary cover. However, a combination of excavator pitting and auger drilling in off-road areas would provide a more representative test of the quantity and quality of the silica flour present in EL61/94. It is proposed that a track be driven west from Blackwater Road and a system of short spur tracks be constructed such that access is gained to both sides of the tributary of Blackwater Rivulet for test pitting and drilling (Figure 1). This work would allow quantification of the silica flour resource.

## **7. Environmental matters**

No environmental impacts resulted from work in the present period.

## **8. References**

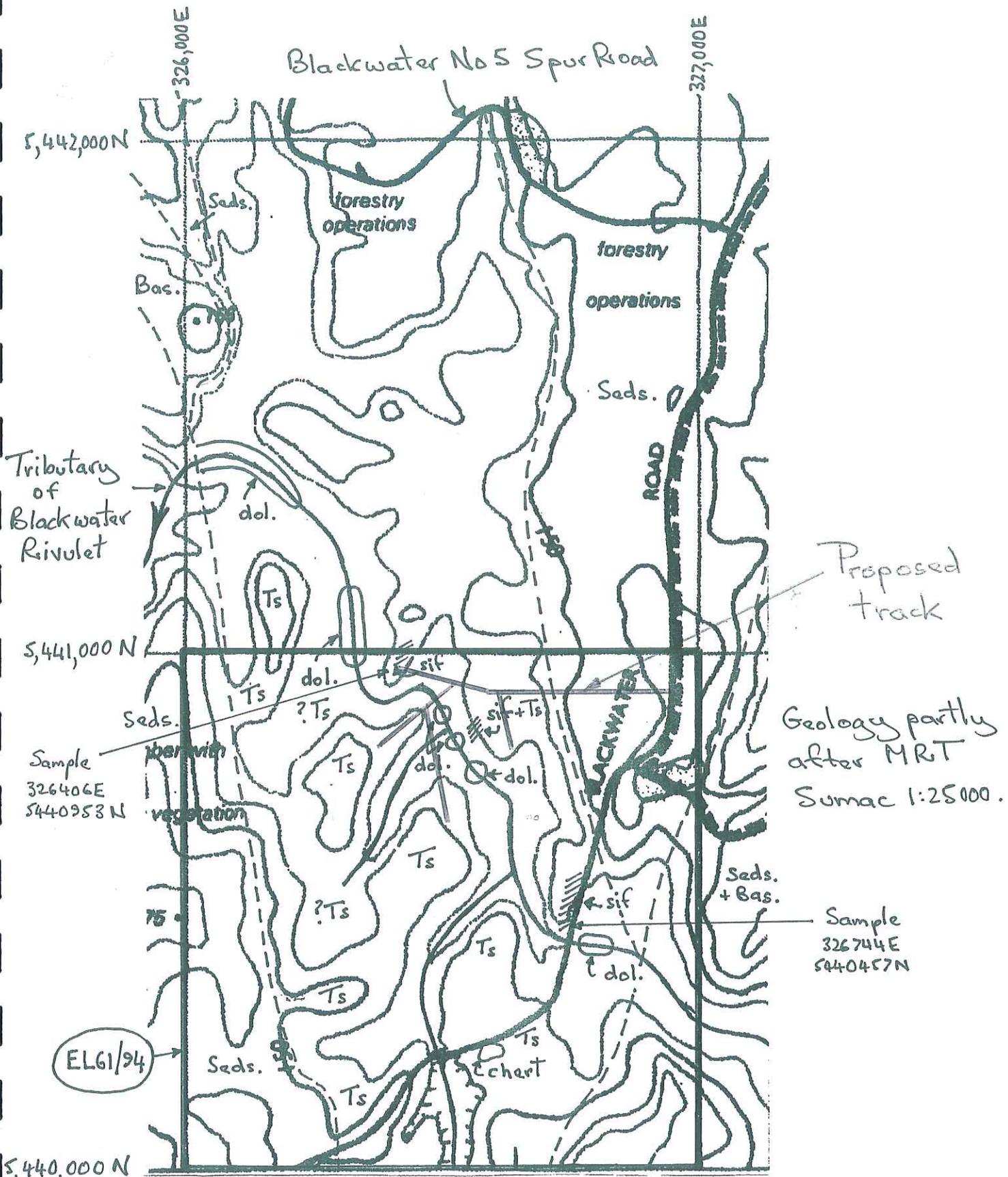
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Proposed track

Geology partly after MRT Sumac 1:25000.

- Ts Tertiary gravel, sand and carbonaceous siltstone.
- sif Silica flour
- dol. Smithton Dolomite
- Seds. Neoproterozoic sedimentary rocks
- Bas. Neoproterozoic basalt.
- geological boundary

FIG.2