



amdel

## The Australian Mineral Development Laboratories

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4 July 1978

The Manager-Exploration  
Comalco Limited  
GPO Box 2773Y  
MELBOURNE Vic 3001

Dear Mr Bartlett,

### Treatment of Moina Fluorite

Please forgive our delay in replying to your letter of 6 June 1978.

Yes, we believe pyrohydrolysis would be an effective means of recovering fluorine from Moina fluorite. In fact, we are enthusiastic about the potential of a process which yields HF directly with such a simple flowsheet, and which uses steam as the only reagent. The principal problems are likely to concern the engineering of a reactor to withstand a corrosive atmosphere at temperatures of 1100°C or higher. Initially we would envisage some laboratory tube furnace experiments to decide optimum conditions of temperature, time, particle size etc. for the Moina ore. A small, specially-constructed fluid bed reactor would then be used for trials which should aid in materials selection and with scale-up considerations.

We would be pleased to discuss these suggestions with you in more detail at a time you nominate.

Yours faithfully,  
The Australian Mineral Development  
Laboratories

for Norton Jackson,  
Managing Director

RJA:rp