

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Scope of Report

This report details exploration for brown coal by CSR Limited on behalf of AAR Limited within EL20/80 Launceston during the three month period ended 22 May 1982.

2.2 Tenement Details

EL20/80 Launceston, covering an area of 2,339km², was granted to AAR Limited on 19 September 1980 for a term of one year.

An extension for a 6 month period was granted on 22 August, 1981. A further application for a twelve month extension of EL20/80 Launceston was made, and the EL was granted for the period 22 February, 1982 to 22 February, 1983.

2.3 Location and Access

EL20/80 Launceston extends from Campbell Town in the south-east, west to Deloraine, and north to Launceston, (Figure 1). It is located on the Meander, South Esk, and Tamar 1:100,000 Topographic Map Series.

The Bass and Midlands Highways traverse the area from east to west and north-west to south-east, respectively. The Western Line Railway also crosses the area in an east-west direction, through Perth, Longford and Westbury. The Southern Line Railway parallels the Midlands Highway between Powranna and Campbell Town, and junctions with the Western Line Railway at Western Junction (Figure 2).

Access in the northern sections of the EL (Westbury, Rosevale, Selbourne) is generally via sealed shire roads and well maintained farm tracks which enable good dry weather access. However, access can only be gained to some sites in the summer months as pastures are extremely boggy when wet. January through March is the ideal time for an exploration programme in the north of the EL.

Access in the southern sections of the EL (Conara, Campbell Town), where farms are larger, is predominantly through pastures, once off the sealed shire roads. The southern areas of the EL are drier than the north, and exploration is possible from January through to May.

2.4 Climate, Physiography and Land Use

The climate of the area is temperate. The annual average rainfall throughout the area ranges from approximately 500 to 1,000mm, and generally falls during the winter months, (Mathews, 1974).