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Structurally the Loatta deposit is now known to be much more complex than originally believed. RL variation on the top of the easily correlatable D interval (Seam H1) is indicative of a complicated pattern of faulting, especially in the central western part of the deposit where vertical displacements as great as 70m are in evidence. Figure 4.3.1 shows a possible structural interpretation centring on three major intersecting faults (of unknown relative order). Apart from anomalous seam RL values, further evidence of faulting can be found in irregular fairly steep dips (for example 15-20° in core from C0116, and severe attenuation of geophysical log traces in R0125). Superficially, the south-eastern portion of the Loatta deposit appears to have been subject to only low amplitude folding. This may well be more apparent than real, bearing in mind the more tenuous nature of correlations towards the south.

Drillhole spacing at Loatta ranges between 200m and about 800m. A station spacing of 250m would be required to elevate reserve status to "measured" in view of the stratigraphic variability and structural complexity of the deposit.

Even more closely-spaced drilling will be needed to resolve structural anomalies and accurately locate faults. Certain ground geophysical methods may assist with solution of the structural problem.

Whereas no new evaluation work has been undertaken on the other coal deposits which comprise the Rosevale Coalfield, for completeness a brief description follows.

Like the Loatta deposit, that at Pipers Lagoons is constrained to the east and west by basement outcrop or subcrop and is closed to the south by pinching out of the coal seams. The deposit has an irregular elongate shape, with a distinct, almost separate, lobe in the north.