

MEMORANDUM:MR. E. BROCK - ROSSARDEN

On 29th June I visited the area at Rossarden where Mr. E. Brock is at present prospecting.

Present operations are being carried out on the recent application for a mining lease No. 9M/54 which is situated westerly from the town of Rossarden and adjoins the former application on its western boundary.

Work is being carried out on the eastern slope of a comparatively steep hill composed essentially of Quartzites. On this hill there is evidence of previous prospecting in the form of trenches and short cuts into the hill-side. No development however followed the prospecting.

The present work has been directed towards testing soils and detrital matter at many points on the hillside with the object of determining the source of any tin ore found. At two positions further work has been done.

In the first instance an open cut of perhaps 45 feet in length has resulted, the greatest depth being ten feet and the greatest width eight feet.

Two minor faults are to be seen in this opening one, almost vertical, strikes north and the other, which dips easterly at about 45 degrees, strikes north-westerly.

The rocks exposed are quartzites. These strike in a general north-westerly direction and although generally fairly massive are in places more or less finely laminated.

Mr. Brock reports that with the laminated Quartzites some tin occurs but with the more massive type tin does not occur.

There is no evidence of any defined lode formation in these workings and the tin ore is apparently associated with the joint planes of the country rock.

The concentrates from several dish prospects have been forwarded as a sample for analysis. The tin concentrate present is extremely fine grained and appears to be coated with iron oxide to give it a dark reddish brown colour.

A sample of the country rock was also broken and forwarded for analysis to determine whether tin is present and the grade of the rock in general. It is not expected to be high grade.

In these workings there occurs an occasional development of tourmaline of a dark green colour. A sample of the rock with its contained tourmaline was also sent for analysis to determine whether or not the grade of the tourmaline rich rock was higher in tin

than was the general formation.

The second workings have been made at a point about 250 feet to the north-west of the former workings. At this point a depth of about seven feet has been reached to reveal a series of quartzites underlying about three feet of soils.

Samples of the finer material obtained whilst sinking the holes were tested by prospect dish and some fairly coarse grains of cassiterite were obtained together with some fine grained material similar to that obtained at the first workings.

A sample of the concentrates obtained during the sinking of this hole has also been sent for analysis. It is anticipated that the sample will be low grade in tin.

It was suggested by Mr. Brock that a site be selected for diamond drilling but the present state of development is not such as to warrant drilling. It is doubtful whether this area will develop favourably for previous prospecting by long trenches up the slope of the hill failed to reveal sufficient to warrant development and present operations appear to have only confirmed the previous opinion.

(Sgd.) H.G.W. Keid

CHIEF GEOLOGIST

The Director of Mines,
HOBART.