

RGR/2

10th December, 1956

MEMORANDUMReport on Visit to Zeehan with  
regard to the Departmental Drilling

Accompanied by Mr. K.L. Evans, I arrived in Zeehan late on Wednesday, 5th December. On Thursday, I first met Mr. Clarke, Manager of Montana Silver-Lead N.L. and visited the present drill site. I was shown the drill sites in the vicinity of the Devereau Shaft (to the south of the present drill site) by Mr. K.L. Evans. Here I found some core drilled in these holes. There was no definite marking to show for certain which core was drilled in which hole in the case of the two holes north of the Devereau Shaft. While not marked, proximity to the southernmost hole connected that core to the hole.

There was no mineralised core in any left at the Devereau drill sites, and in no case was there core beyond 55 feet, yet all three holes were more than 100 feet in length.

At this stage there seemed to be discrepancy regarding ownership of the core, and in order to clarify the situation I 'phoned Mr. Keid, who told me to ring him again that evening, Thursday 6th, when he would be in a position to advise me as to the true state of affairs. On ringing Mr. Keid, he told me that the core was the Department's property and to bring all possible core back to Hobart.

On the next day, I boxed the core from the Devereau drill sites and with Mr. K.L. Evans went to the Cuni North drill sites, where the Department drillers had drilled four (4) holes. There was a considerable footage represented by the core there but there was none named with the hole nor were there any footage blocks present. To complicate the situation still further some of the core was not in order (having been disturbed) while at the site of Hole M.9. there was core scattered in random fashion on the ground. The state of the core here was such that I decided it would be futile to either log the core or move it to Hobart. With Mr. K.L. Evans' help I covered the core up to prevent further disturbance while noting the manner, we worked, for any future reference.

We then returned to the Vaudeau drill site and after having lunch, I took the core from the hole in progress, for transport to Hobart. Before leaving Zeehan, I went again to the Montana mine to give Mr. Clarke the opportunity to see the core before it left Zeehan. Mr. Clarke protested that the core belonged to Montana Silver-Lead N.L. and immediately booked a telephone call to the Director of Mines. Following upon this telephone call to the Director, I left this core in Zeehan, left for

Director of Mines, Hobart.

Hobart with the very small amount of core from the Devereau drill site and one box from the Cuni North (purported to come from M.9).

The question still arises as to the ownership of the core drilled by the Department. The attitude of Montana Silver-Lead N.L. is that the Department is only to drill the holes, and that the core is the property of Montana Silver-Lead, which the Department can inspect after Dr. Horvath has logged it. On the matter of Dr. Horvath's logging of the holes, Mr. Clarke has told the Director and me that complete geological logs have been forwarded to the Department in Hobart, yet on inquiry here, no logs have been received. It also appears that while Dr. Horvath and Mr. Clarke logged the core that they removed not only a considerable portion of the core but also (in the case of Cuni North) the footage blocks. It seems that their attitude is that of complete disregard for the core after they have logged it and with no thought for any Departmental logging. This may be consistent with the attitude of Montana Silver-Lead on the ownership matter.

*R. G. Robinson*  
(R. G. Robinson)  
GEOLOGIST

The Director of Mines,  
HOBART.