CR 8521

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 26 FEBRUARY 1995 TO 25 FEBRUARY 1996

EXPLORATION LICENCE 7816 LANCEWOOD

McARTHUR BASIN, NT

Sheet Reference : Wallhallow (SE 53-7)

T C ROGERS B M JONES

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MARCH 1996

Tenement 7816 is held by:

BHP MINERALS PTY LTD Level 3 3 Plain Street EAST PERTH WA 6004 HZ FI

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SUMMARY

No field work was undertaken by BHP Minerals on the Lancewood Exploration Licence (EL 7816) during the period 26 February 1995 to 25 February 1996. Expenditure by BHP for the period totalling \$5,293 (see attachment) was due to reinterpretation of TEM data submitted in previous annual reports.

During the period Ashton Mining undertook exploration on EL 7816 through the McArthur River (Non-Metals) Joint Venture Agreement between Ashton and BHP. Details of this work are presented in the attached report.

Total expenditure on EL 7816 for the period 26 February 1995 to 25 February 1996 was \$12,509 (see attachment).

ATTACHMENTS

- Expenditure Statement
- Ashton Mining Annual Report

E7816 - LANCEWOOD

26 February 1995 to 25 February 1996

	ВНР	ASHTON	TOTAL
Wage and Salaries	1,368	510	1,878
Field Support	56	74	130
Geochemistry	-	5,430	5,430
Office Expenses	236	-	236
Other	2,250	-	2,250
Library	500	-	500
Sub-Total	4,410	6,014	10,424
20% of Total for Corporate Overheads	883	1,202	2,085
TOTAL	\$5,293	\$7,216	\$12,509

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ANNUAL REPORT

EXPLORATION LICENCE 7816

1st July, 1995 to 25th March, 1996

Licensee:	BHP Minerals Pty Ltd
Operator:	BHP Minerals Pty Ltd Ashton Mining Limited
Sheet Reference:	1:250,000 Wallhallow (SE 53-07)
Submitted to:	Department of Mines & Energy - Darwin
Copies to:	Ashton Mining Limited - Perth Office Ashton Mining Library

Author:

T.C. Rogers ASHTON MINING LIMITED 24 Outram Street WEST PERTH WA 6005

March, 1996 Report Number: 51297

SUMMARY

During the period between 1st July, 1995 to 25th March, 1996, Ashton Mining Limited, through the Australian Diamond Exploration Joint Venture (ADEJV), and BHP Minerals (BHPM), through the McArthur River (Non-Metals) Joint Venture, carried out exploration activities on EL 7201. This report provides details of the work undertaken during the fifth year of the licence.

During the reporting period, Ashton's exploration program consisted of regional reconnaissance stream and loam samples. A total of 10 gravel and 2 loam samples were collected. All samples were sent to Ashton's Perth Laboratory. All the samples were negative.

KEYWORDS

Diamond exploration; Gravel sampling; Loam sampling

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FIGURES

Figure 1.	Tenement Location Plan
Figure 2.	Sample Location Plan

APPENDIX

Appendix 1. Sample Results



MARCH, 1996

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Ashton Mining Limited, on behalf of the Australian Diamond Exploration Joint Venture (ADEJV) entered into an agreement with BHP Minerals, on the 1st July, 1995. This agreement enables Ashton Mining to carry out its search for diamond bearing kimberlitic intrusives within BHP's Exploration Licence 7816. This agreement is referred to as the McArthur River (Non-Metals) Joint Venture.

Exploration Licence 7816 was granted to BHP Minerals on the 13th January, 1993 for a period of six years. EL 7816 covers 61 blocks or an area of 195 square kilometres and is located on the Wallhallow (SE 53-07) 1:250,000 map sheet. A tenement location map is shown in Figure 1.

This report provides a summary of work undertaken by Ashton Mining during the reporting period. A statement of expenditure is included in this report.

2.0 EXPLORATION PROGRAMME AND RESULTS

2.1 Previous Exploration Review

Prior to commencing field work, a comprehensive review of previous exploration completed in the area was undertaken. This highlighted areas which had not been adequately explored. Proposed gravel sample locations were then selected and plotted in the office on the Lancewood 1:100,000 map sheet.

2.2 Gravel Sampling Programme

During the reporting period, Ashton Mining conducted a stream gravel sampling programme, collecting 10 samples. The samples were screened to -2.0mm and were nominally 27kg. The samples were forwarded to Ashton's Perth laboratory in calico bags for diamond and indicator mineral analysis.

All the samples were negative. Sample locations are shown in Figure 2 and detailed results are given in Appendix 1.

2.3 Loam Sampling Programme

During the reporting period, Ashton Mining took two loam samples, each weighing about 60kg. The samples were forwarded to Ashton's Perth laboratory for diamond and indicator mineral analysis. Both samples were negative. Sample locations are shown in Figure 2 and a sample list is given in Appendix 1.

2.4 Laboratory Procedure

All samples are being processed by the Ashton Mining Limited Laboratory in Perth, where they are concentrated by Wilfley table and heavy liquid separation techniques.

The heavy liquid used is tetrabromethane with a specific gravity of 2.96. The concentrates will then be screened into various size fractions, further concentrated by magnetic and electrostatic separation techniques and a comprehensive grain by grain examination carried out on the minus 1.0mm plus 0.425mm fractions.

3.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Whilst sampling in the northern section of EL 7816 has returned disappointing results, further exploration is warranted in the southern section as a result of its proximity to known indicator minerals in the adjacent tenement.



APPENDIX 1

Sample Results

EL7816 RESULTS

Sample	Туре	Lab wt (kg)	Result	Macrodiamond	Microdiamonds	Chromite
WAL00846	G	39.6	neg	-	-	_
WAL00851	G	62	neg	-	-	_
WAL00852	G	35	neg	-	-	-
WAL00879	L	80	neg	-	-	_
WAL00880	L	77	neg	-	-	_
WAL00881	G	41	neg	-	-	_
WAL00884	G	40	neg	-	-	-
WAL00887	G	46	neg	-		_
WAL00890	G	43	neg	-	_	_
WAL00893	G	40	neg	-	-	_
WAL00896	G	39	neg	-	-	_
WAL00905	G	42	neg	-	-	-

G = Gravel sample, L = Loam sample

Expenditure for Exploration Licence 7816 For the Period 01.07.95 to 12.01.96

Geoscientist / Professional	\$323.00
Field Support & Office Staff	
Laboratory	74.50
•	5,429.90
Computing / Drafting	186.67

Total

\$6,014.07

Prosposed 1996 Program for EL 7816

The proposed program and budget for the period 13 January 1996 to 12 January 1997 will involve further open file data review and additional reconnaissance sampling. The budget is as follows:

Geoscientiest / Professional	***
Field Support / Office Stafft	\$2,500
Travel / Accommodation / Meals	1,500
Field Supplies	2,000
Vehicles	1,000
	500
Helicopter Charter	4,000
Laboratory	3,000
Drafting	500
Total	\$15,000