#### ANNUAL REPORT

#### **EXPLORATION LICENCE 8095**

"Calvert Hill"

12th July, 1996 to 11th July, 1997

Licensee: Ashton Mining Limited

Operator: Ashton Mining Limited

Sheet Reference: 1:250,000 Calvert Hills (SE53-08)

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#### **SUMMARY**

During the period 12th July, 1996 to 11th July, 1997, Ashton Mining Limited, on behalf of the Australian Diamond Exploration Joint Venture (ADE JV), carried out an exploration programme over Exploration Licence 8095. This report provides details of work undertaken on the licence during the reporting period.

As part of Ashton's reconnaissance bulk sampling programme, a suitable bulk sample site was selected within the boundaries of EL 8095, and approximately 50 tonnes of gravel excavated. This sample will be trucked to the HMS plant located at Cape Crawford, for sorting and processing, before being dispatched to Ashton's Perth laboratory for observing.

Results, outstanding from samples collected in the previous year, became available with one sample reporting a single chromite grain. The remaining two samples reported negative.

Exploration expenditure for the reporting period amounted to \$33,679 against a covenant of \$33,000.

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report details exploration activities carried out by Ashton Mining Limited over Exploration Licence 8095 for the period 12th July, 1996 to 11th July, 1997. Ashton Mining Limited is manager of the licence on behalf of the Australian Diamond Exploration Joint Venture (ADEJV). Participants of the ADEJV also includes Aberfoyle Resources.

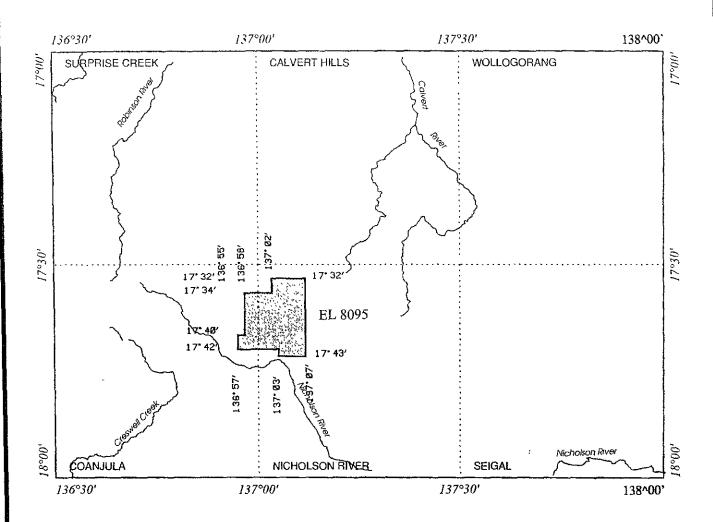
Exploration licence 8095 was granted to Ashton Mining on the 12th July, 1993 for a period of six years. The licence covers an area of 88 blocks and is located on the Calvert Hills (SE53-08) 1:250,000 map sheet and the Coanjula and Nicholson River 1:100,000 map sheets. A tenement location map appears as Figure 1. The target for exploration within this licence is diamond bearing kimberlitic intrusives.

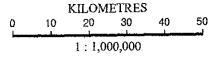
A statement of expenditure is included in this report.

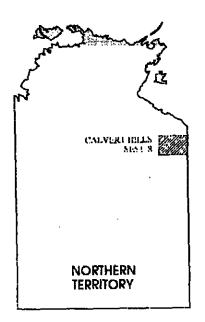
#### 2.0 DIAMOND EXPLORATION

#### 2.1 Outstanding Results

Laboratory processing of three check samples collected in the previous reporting period became available. Two samples reported negative, while the third sample reported a single chromite grain. Sample locations are shown on Plan 1 which was submitted in the annual report for EL 8095 for the reporting period 12th July 1995 to 11th July, 1996 (Report Number 513887). Results are provided in Appendix 1.







ASHTON MINING LIMITED A.D.E. JOINT VENTURE

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FIGURE 1
LOCATION MAP

#### 2.2 Bulk Sampling Programme

As part of a reconnaissance bulk sampling programme, a suitable bulk sample site was selected within EL 8095, and approximately 50 tonnes excavated using a front end loader. This sample (97066-001) is awaiting transporation to Ashton's Heavy Media Separation (HMS) plant, located at Cape Crawford, where it will be sorted and processed, before being dispatched to Perth for indicator and microdiamond analysis.

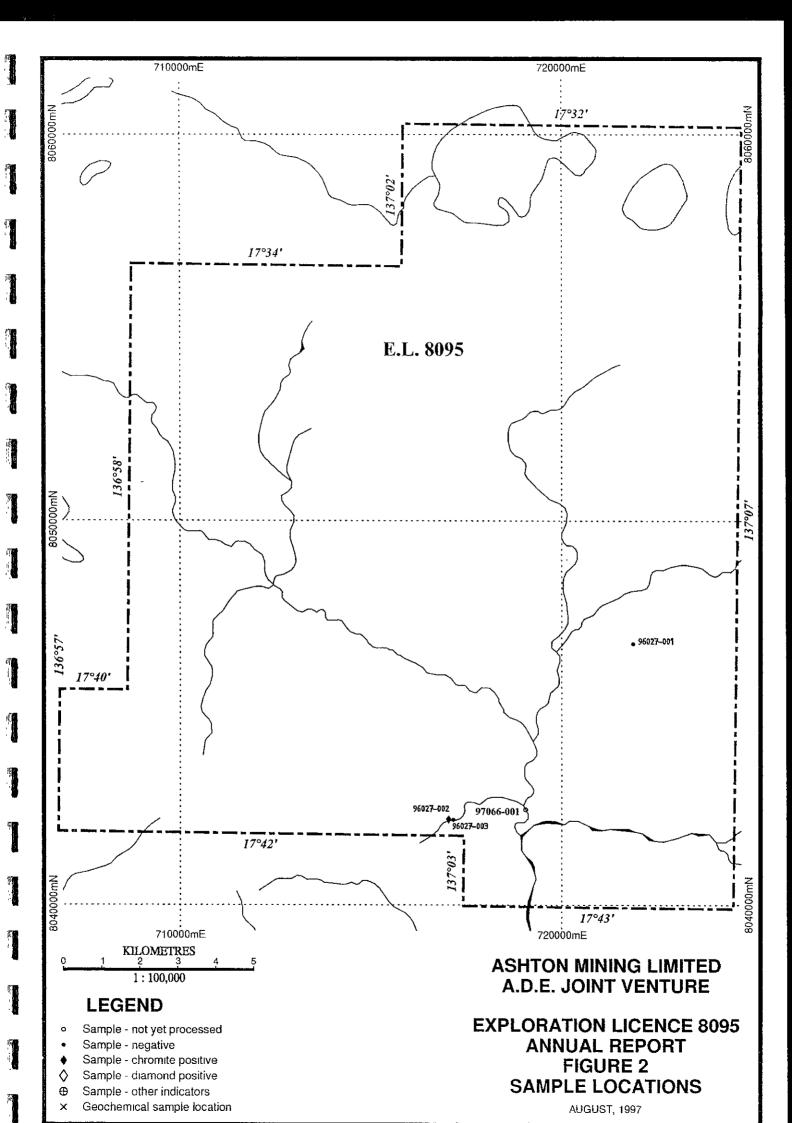
The sample location is shown on Figure 2.

#### 3.0 EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE

Exploration expenditure for the period 12th July, 1996 to 11th July, 1997 amounted to \$33,679 against a covenant of \$33,000. A detailed breakdown of expenditure is given in Appendix 2.

#### 4.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Processing of the bulk sample through the HMS plant and laboratory analysis of concentrate will be undertaken in the next reporting period. Further work will be dependent on the outcome of the result from sample 97066-001.



### 5.0 PROPOSED PROGRAMME AND BUDGET

The proposed programme and budget for the period 12th July, 1997 to 11th July, 1998 is as follows:

- 1. Processing of 50 tonne bulk sample through the HMS plant
- 2. Follow-up sampling if warranted.

Geoscientist/Professional Staff	4,500
Field Support/Office Staff	4,000
Travel/Accommodation/Meals	3,000
Field Supplies	2,500
Equipment Hire	8,000
Vehicles	2,000
Freight/Storage	1,000
HMS Plant	5,000
Laboratory	4,500
Drafting/Computing	500

\$ 35,000

APPENDIX 1

Sample Results

# SAMPLE RESULTS EXPLORATION LICENCE 8095

Sample No.	Туре	Result	Dìamond		Chromite	Other
			Macro	Micro		
96027-001	G	N	_	-	-	-
96027-002	G	P	-	-	1	_
96027-003	G	N	-		•	-
97066-001	BG	Not Processed	-		-	-

G = Gravel

BG = Bulk Gravel

# APPENDIX 2

Statement of Expenditure

# STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE

# **EXPLORATION LICENCE 8095**

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For the period 12th July, 1996 to 11th July, 1997

Geoscientist/Professional Staff	4,307
Field Support/Office Staff	3,876
Travel/Accommodation/Meals	2,755
Field Supplies	1,047
Equipment	2,337
Vehicles	3,043
Freight/Storage	579
Helicopter Charter	2,865
Laboratory	3,595
Drafting/Computing	204
HMS Plant	510
Earthmoving Hire	5,500
Sub-Total	30,618
Overheads	3,061
Total:	\$ 33,679