

Rio Tinto Exploration Pty. Limited

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A member of the Rio Tinto Group

Sixth and Final Annual Report for the Period Ending 14th June 2006 for EL 7294 Borroloola, McArthur Base Metals Programme, Bauhinia Downs SE5303, Northern Territory

Exploration Report No. 27874

Tenement Holder: Ashton Mining Limited

Date: September 2006

Author: S R Bishop

Submitted:

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Distribution: Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries & Mines, RTE Perth Information Centre

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SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

This report is the sixth and final exploration report for exploration licence EL 7294 Borroloola on the Bauhinia Downs 1:250,000 map sheet within the McArthur Basin and centred on the township of Borroloola, Northern Territory.

Ashton Mining Limited (Ashton) and Anglo American Exploration (Australia) (AAE) signed the Batten Trough Farm In and Joint Venture Agreement that includes EL 7294 on 29th September 2003. Ashton is a subsidiary of Rio Tinto Ltd. AAE withdrew from the joint venture and handed the tenements back to Ashton on 24th March 2006.

No field-based exploration activities were carried out within EL 7294 by RTE for the sixth year ending 14th June 2006.

Six years of exploration activities by RTE and AAE did not identify any significant Zn-Pb-Ag mineralisation within EL 7294.

RTE considers remaining exploration opportunities for large scale Zn-Pb-Ag deposits within the reduced EL 7294 tenement area are limited and not worthy of additional work given the exploration results across the broader JV area.

Ashton relinquished EL 7294 on 14th June 2006.

AAE carried out no ground-disturbing work that required rehabilitation.

No further rehabilitation is required by RTE.

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VERIFICATION LISTING

Fundamentian Manda Truca	Ette Maria	E annu at
Exploration Work Type Office Studies	File Name	Format
Literature search		
Database compilation		
Computer modelling		
Reprocessing of data		
General research		
Report preparation	27874 Borroloola	pdf
Other (specify)	WAp46639 (Tenement Location Plan)	pdf
Airborne Exploration Surveys	1	
Aeromagnetics		
Radiometrics		
Electromagnetics		
Gravity		
Digital terrain modelling		
Other (specify)		
Remote Sensing		
Aerial photography		
LANDSAT		
SPOT		
MSS		
Radar		
Other (specify)		
Ground Exploration Surveys		
Geological Mapping		
Regional		
Reconnaissance		
Prospect		
Underground		
Costean		
Ground Geophysics		
Radiometrics		
Magnetics		
Gravity		
Digital terrain modelling		
Electromagnetics		
SP/AP/EP		
IP		
AMT		
Resistivity		
Complex resistivity		
Seismic reflection		
Seismic refraction		
Well logging		
Geophysical interpretation		
Other (specify)		
Geochemical Surveying		
Drill sample Stream sediment		
Stream sediment		
Soli Rock chip		
Regolith		
Water		
Biogeochemistry		
Isotope		
Whole rock		
Mineral analysis		
Other (specify)		
Drilling		
Aircore		
Auger		
Diamond		
Reverse circulation		
Rotary air blast		
Rotary percussion		
Tungsten carbide bit (coring)		
Groundwater drilling		
All drilling		
File Verification Listing (this table)	27874 Borroloola V	.pdf
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