CORE STORAGE PROGRAM, 1986

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Publications and Information Section

INTRODUCTION

During 1979 the Newfoundland Department of Mines and Energy started a drill core collection and storage program. The objective is to provide well maintained and representative collections of drill core from as many drilling programs as possible for the future use of the mineral exploration industry, government and university geoscientists, and other geotechnical people.

DRILL CORE COLLECTION

During the 1986 field season, drill core collection continued in insular Newfoundland and in eastern Labrador. In insular Newfoundland, 10,706 m of core were collected from twelve drilling projects, and in eastern Labrador 1,500 m of core were acquired from drilling in the Makkovik area. To date, the core storage program has collected 185,922.2 m of drill core, of which approximately 149,111.9 m are classified as 'open' and are available for inspection by interested persons. Figures 1 and 2 show the locations of all sites from which core has been collected, and Tables 1 and 2 give a list of the collected core.

![Figure 1: Core collection sites, Labrador.](image)

DRILL CORE LIBRARIES

The Department of Mines and Energy operates three drill core libraries, located in St. John’s, Pasadena and Goose Bay (Figure 3). The St. John’s library is staffed on a full-time basis, except during the field season. It has a capacity of 60,000 m of drill core. Approximately 37,543 m of drill core are being stored in the St. John’s library. Most of this core is from eastern Newfoundland, from the St. Lawrence area, and the ‘silica survey’ drilling conducted by the provincial government during the 1960’s. Drill core logs and location maps have been prepared for catalogued core. The St. John’s library also contains rock cutting equipment, core splitters, a stereomicroscope, a magnetic susceptibility meter, a resistivity meter, an ultraviolet light and a McPhar TV-1 scintillometer. These facilities and equipment are available for use on approved projects by exploration geologists, university researchers, staff of the Department of Mines and Energy and other interested persons.

The Pasadena core library is also staffed on a full-time basis. This library has equipment and facilities similar to the St. John’s library and has a capacity of 200,000 m of core. It has a ventilated room for storing radioactive core and a humidity-controlled room for storing salt core. There are approximately 133,568 m of core presently stored in the Pasadena library, collected from drilling sites west of Gander. The Goose Bay core library, which contains core from Labrador, is not staffed on a full-time basis. It has a capacity of 60,000 m of core, with room for expansion. Approximately 13,366.4 m of core have been catalogued and placed on the rack system to date.

STORAGE OF CONFIDENTIAL DRILL CORE

The core storage program is presently storing 36,810.3 m of core from twelve drilling projects on a confidential basis. Requests for confidential storage are treated on an individual basis. Conditions and terms of confidential storage are tied to land status and are similar to the terms and conditions of confidentiality which apply to assessment reports.

The policy of the department regarding the storage of confidential drill core samples is as follows:

a) All requests for storage of confidential core are accommodated if there is sufficient space available in the core library to do so. The core samples must be the property of the company requesting confidential storage and must have been acquired by it from ground held in good standing under the Mineral Act, 1976, and Mineral Regulations, 1983.
b) The period of confidential storage can be for as long as the ground is held in good standing by the company that acquired the core, up to a maximum period of five years from the date the core was drilled, as reported to the government in company assessment reports.

Figure 2: Core collection sites, insular Newfoundland.
c) Company officials are responsible for the transportation of core, for which confidential storage is requested, to the library, and for handling and storage of the core in the library. Core storage personnel may assist with handling of confidential core in the library as workload permits.

d) The geological staff of the Department of Mines and Energy will have access to all confidential core stored in the core libraries with the prior approval of the Director of the Mineral Development Division. Written permission of the company that owns the core is required before a staff member may sample confidential core.

e) All persons requesting access to confidential core, with the exception of the geological staff of the department and officials of the company that owns the core, must provide written authorization from the designated company official responsible for the core before access to the core samples is granted. This company official will be designated when a request for confidential storage of core is accepted by the department.

f) The department takes all reasonable precautions to provide for safe storage and to protect the confidentiality of company core, but no liability is assumed for core storage on a confidential basis.

g) All core stored on a confidential basis must be subject to the conditions of a valid ‘Agreement Governing Storage of Confidential Core’ (Appendix I).

The Mineral Regulations regarding drill core are given in Appendix II. No changes are planned to these regulations.

PLANS

All ‘open’ drill core in our three core libraries has been catalogued, and a drill hole map index and computer listing of this core is available as Open File Nfld 1479.

An extension to the Pasadena core library is in the planning stage. Limited space is available in all three core libraries for confidential storage of core. We encourage explorationists to use our facilities for core storage and related research.

Figure 3: Core libraries in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador
Plans to rent core storage space in Springdale are in progress. During 1987 work is planned in Buchans in the core storage building being donated to the Department by the Buchans co-tenancy of ASARCO and Abitibi-Price. It is anticipated that most of the core samples now being stored by the Buchans co-tenancy will be donated with the core storage building.

Our Pasadena facility is now filled to capacity. In the absence of an expansion to the building in 1987, condensing of existing sample suites will begin in the 1987 field season. Core collection in insular Newfoundland and in eastern Labrador will continue in 1987.

### Table 1. Summary of core collected to date—insular Newfoundland

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P - Pasadena Core Library  
SJ - St. John's Core Library  
† Temporary Confidential Storage
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</table>

GB - Goose Bay Library  
P - Pasadena Library
APPENDIX I

CORE STORAGE PROJECT
AGREEMENT GOVERNING STORAGE
OF CONFIDENTIAL CORE

The Department of Mines and Energy (hereinafter called the department) hereby agrees with ___________________________
(hereinafter called the depositor) for and in consideration of the sum of One dollar ($1.00), the receipt of which from the
depositor is hereby acknowledged, to provide confidential storage for core samples listed in the schedule to this agreement
in accordance with the terms and conditions noted as follows:

1. The department recognizes that the core samples are the property of the depositor.

2. The department agrees to store the core samples in the department’s library.

3. The department agrees to store confidentially the core samples listed in the schedule to this agreement for a maximum
term of five (5) years from the completion date of the drilling in relation to which the core samples are from and
that term expires on the _____ day of ________________.

4. The department agrees to provide to the depositor on request core samples of the depositor stored under this agreement
and such provision terminates this agreement with respect to those core samples.

5. If during the term for which core samples are stored with the department the depositor drops the ground from which
the samples were obtained or it ceases to be in good standing in accordance with The Mineral Act, 1976 and The
Mineral Regulations, 1983, it is agreed that the core samples cease to be confidential and they become the property
of the department.

6. At the end of the term of storage of the core samples under this agreement, the department has the right to select
a representative suite of samples from the core samples listed in the schedule to this agreement and may use
the samples selected for any purposes it so wishes and may dispose of the samples at its convenience.

7. The department agrees to take all reasonable precautions to provide safe storage and to ensure the confidential status
of the core samples but does not assume any liability in relation to the storage of the samples or their confidential
status, even if the lack of safety or confidentiality is caused by the negligence or default of the department, its servants,
agents or employees.

8. The department agrees to provide access to the core samples listed in the schedule to this agreement to only the
following persons:

(a) personnel of the depositor;
(b) those people on the geoscientific staff of the department who have prior written approval of the Director, Mineral
Development Division; and
(c) individuals who have with them personal written authorization allowing the individual access to the core of
the depositor, so long as the authorization

(i) is written on paper bearing the letterhead of the depositor;
(ii) is an original authorization and not a photocopy;
(iii) details what core is to be shown to the individual and indicates whether or not sampling is permitted; and
(iv) is signed by the appropriate officials of the depositor.

SIGNED at ____________________________ in the Province of Newfoundland this day of
_______________ 19____.

Witness

Witness

Department of Mines and Energy

Official of the Depositor
APPENDIX II

MINERAL REGULATIONS RE: DRILL CORE

64. No person, whether a holder of mineral rights issued under this Act or these Regulations or not, shall intentionally abandon, discard, dump, destroy or otherwise reduce the original technical value of any diamond drill core or rotary drill cuttings obtained for information purposes within the Province or remove same from the Province, except for those sections submitted for assaying, testing, microscopic, metallurgical and beneficiation studies, without the permission of the Minister.

65. (1) All persons proposing to dispose of any diamond drill core in their possession or lodged with them for safekeeping, shall notify the Minister of their desire to do so and upon receipt of such notification the Minister

(a) shall provide such persons with permission in accordance with regulation 64 or
(b) may direct his authorized representative to take possession of such drill core for the Crown and take such other action as he may deem necessary.

(2) The actions directed by the Minister under paragraph (1) shall be undertaken at the expense of the Crown.