

GEOLOGIC NOTES ON THE TROUBLESOME CREEK URANIUM PROSPECT CARBON COUNTY

Location and Ownership

The deposit consists of 16 lode claims located in Sec. 30, T. 25 N., R. 81 W. The owners are: R. Bailey, H. Schneider, A. Taccalone, A. Williams, G. Cruickshank, and J. Schneider. The claims are easily reached by automobile in dry weather.

The prospect was examined on November 7, 1954, in the company of Prof. R. Houston and Mr. R. Bailey.

Geology and Mineralization

The general geology in the mineralized area was described by A. A. Koenig (1952), but no discussion of the deposits was included since uranium had not been discovered at that time.

Anomalous radioactivity occurs in the upper part of the Tensleep formation which, in this area, strikes approximately N. 20° E. and dips SE. 37-48°. The upper portion of the Tensleep formation here is composed of white and yellow-brown crossbedded sandstone that forms a prominent dip slope on the west side of Troublesome Creek.

The uranium mineralization occurs in a rudely parallel system of calcite veins which strike approximately due west and dip very steeply north. The calcite veins vary in width from several inches to 5 feet in width. They are exposed along the strike of the vein for almost the entire

width of the Tensleep dip slope. The veins are well banded, contain many crinkles and crenulations along the strike, and in places display crustified and good cockscomb texture. At least two stages of calcite-filling are apparently present since the calcite banding butts up against sandstone inclusions within the veins and in other cases calcite is wrapped around the inclusions in rectangular, rudely circular and loaf-of-bread fashion.

Metatyuyamunite, a yellow-colored uranium mineral, coats crystal faces of the calcite which, in turn, are oriented rudely parallel to the walls of the vein. A second uranium mineral, green in color, is also present but is not as abundant as the one previously mentioned. This is also reported to be metatyuyamunite.

A five foot channel sample taken across the vein and assayed by the Natural Resources Research Institute yielded 0.47% U_3O_8 .

Eleven radioactive veins have been reported from this area, and it has been further reported that some of these can be traced into the underlying Amsden formation. This was not confirmed by the writer. The maximum count on the scintillometer taken from samples of the area is 0.20 MR./hr. The background count in the area averages 0.025 MR./hr.

William H. Wilson

William H. Wilson
Assistant State Geologist
Geological Survey of Wyoming
June 9, 1955

Reference

Koenig, A. A. (1952) "Geology of the Troublesome Creek Basin, Carbon County, Wyoming", unpublished M. A. thesis, Univ. of Wyoming