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KIRBY'S HILL AND TYLDESLEY-BEN BULLEN AREAS WESTERN COAL FIELD.

Results of Scout Drilling.

bу

w. J. Perry.

PFCOPDS 1952/37

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KIRBY'S HITL AND TYLDESLEY-BEN BULLEN AREAS.

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SUMMARY.

Scout drilling at Kirby's Hill and at Tyldesley Ben Bullen has shown that the coal present is unsuitable for open cut exploitation. Proving is not recommended.

1. KIRBY'S HILL AREA.

INTRODUCTION.

This statement gives the results of a scout drilling campaign conducted by the Bureau at Kirby's Hill Area of the Western Coalfield of New South Wales. The area investigated comprises approximately 200 acres of the parish of Cullen Bullen in the County of Roxburgh. At Kirby's Hill itself a maximum of about 300 feet of Coal Measure rocks rests on Upper Marine beds, and this is one of the most westerly exposures of the Upper Coal Measures.

The purpose of scout drilling was to determine the suitability of the Lithgow and Irondale Seams for open cut exploitation. The three bore sites were decided on at a discussion between representatives of the New South Wales Mines Department, the Joint Coal Board's Lithgow Office, and the Bureau. A Goldfields type rig operated by Goldfields Diamond Drilling Co. under contract to the Bureau drilled a total of 311 feet in the area.

Mr. F. O. Rayner of the New South Wales Mines Department surveyed F.M.R.8 and related its level to his plan of the area from which the attached plan N14-77 is traced. Mr. G. M. Burton examined the core from B.M.R.8 and completed the survey of bores 9 and 10. Cores from these holes were logged by the writer.

Proximate analyses and calorific value determinations of the coal cores were made by the New South Wales Mines Department laboratory in Sydney. All coal cores as recovered were forwarded from the field to the laboratory and the analysts selected samples for examination by rejecting shale etc. bands with a thickness of half an inch or more. Stony coal with S.G. of more than 1.6 was also excluded from the samples analysed. Consequently the analyses here quoted indicate a composition roughly equivalent to that which might be expected for cleaned or hand-picked coal from this area. Both seams are much banded, as may be seen by reference to Table I and to the graphic logs.

DEFINITION OF SUITABLE COAL.

Coal is included in the computation of reserves suitable for open cut mining only when it conforms to the following

conditions:-

- 1. Minimum thickness of 5 feet
- 2. Maximum overburden of not more than 100 feet to the roof of the seam.
- 3. Maximum overburden/coal ratio of 15/1.
- 4. Calorific value: Not less than 10,000 B.Th.U.'s per pound.

DRILLING RESULTS.

As indicated above, three bores were drilled, the total footage being 311 feet. The average percentage recovery of coal core was 80%. Bores 8 and 9 penetrated the Irondale and Lithgow Seams, but owing to a lack of adequate supervision bore 10 was abandoned a few feet below the Irondale Seam. It is probable, however, that the Lithgow Seam characteristics here are similar to those shown in bores 8 and 9.

INDICATED COAL RESERVES.

In general thought thickness is satisfactory, the quality of coal intersected in the three bores falls below the standard required by the definition. In B.M.F.9 the Lithgow Seam has a calorific value of 10,570 B.Th.U's per pound, but its thickness is only 4 feet. Hence, reserves of potential open cut coal are nil.

Details of bores are shown in the accompanying table.

RECOMMENDATION.

No further consideration should be given to Kirby's Hill as a potential open-cut area; proving is not recommended.

2. TYLDESLEY-BEN BULLEN AREA.

One bore was sunk at a position 1,505 feet in direction N48½ wofrom the south-east corner of M.L.27 in the parish of Cullen Bullen. Two seams were intersected at 37 and 55 feet respectively but these are too thin for open-cut purposes (see table and graphic log).

TABLE.

KIRBY'S HILL AND TYLDESLEY-BEN BULLEY ARE S.

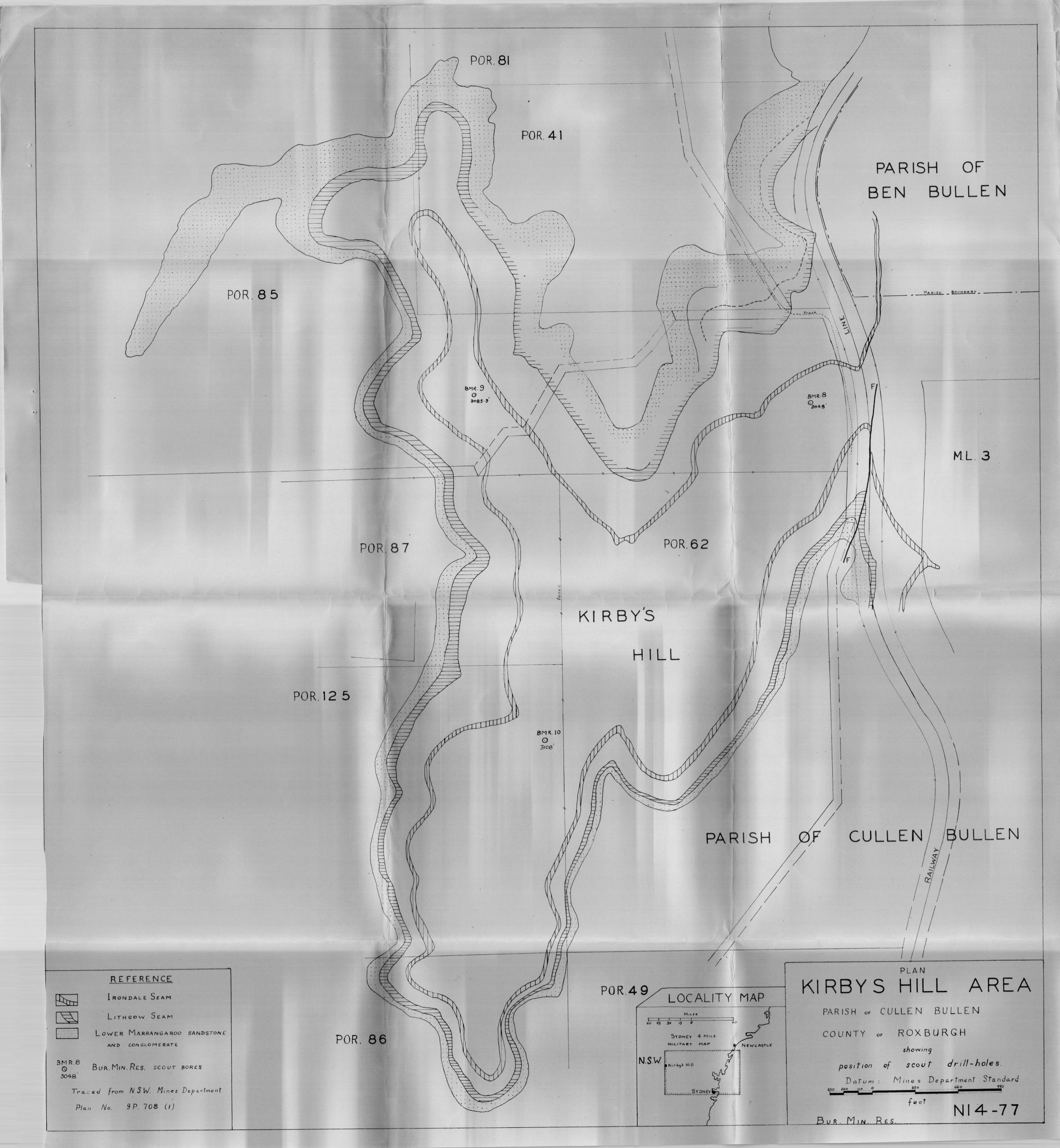
DETTILS OF BORES.

Bore		Thick cludi	ness of Co ing bands m	Overburden Thick-	Composition of Coal Excluding Bands. Moistly.H. F.C. Ash B.Th.U's					Approx. B.Th.U's per pound.	Excluded	
No.	Assumed from		Recovered & Coal and recovered.			Moist %			Ash %	B.Th.U's per pound	Bands Included (b)	from Analysis (inches)
Kirb Hill 8	(7ft. (10 (7 4	6in. 0 8 0	7ft.6in. 8 4 5 8 3 2 5 2	100 83 74 79 64	39 92 42 93 75		28.4 24.2 30.5 25,3 31.7	43.5	29.3 30.0 27.3 24.8 25.7	9,810 10,350 10,570	8,800 2, 250 8,480 10,570 8,490	12 19 15 - 15
	(]		11 1 11	100 82	37 55	1.9	26.6 28.9	42.3 37.9	29.2 31.5	10,010 9,730	10,010 9,730	

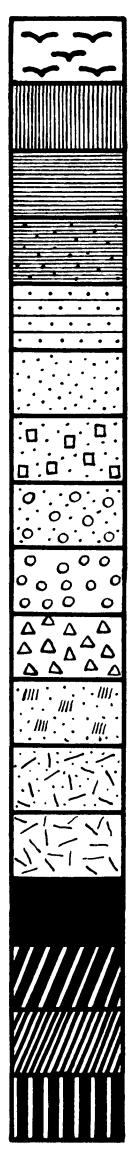
⁽a) Lost core from within the coll seam and for which there is no information is regarded as coal of the same composition as that recovered and analysed.

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⁽b) It is assumed that bands have no calorific value.



<u>REFERENCE</u>



Alluvium

Clay

Shale

Sandy Shale

Siltstone

Sandstone

Greywacke

Sandy Conglomerate

Conglomerate

Breccia

Chert

Tuff

Igneous Rock

Coal (Under 20%)

Shaly Coal (20-30%)

Carb. Shale (Orer 30%)
Carb. Shale or Coal
composition unknown

N14-70

Commonwealth of Australia	92'0"	4/////	32.7% Ash	9,410 B.Th. Us/16.	
	95'6" 95'5"	V////////	27.39 Ash	10,200 BTh. Vállb.	
Bureau of Mineral Resources	97'8" : 96'0" :	//////	34.69 Ash.	9,140 BTh Us/16.	
Geology & Geophysics	100'10"	; ; ;	125.69/Ash	10,4908.12. 41/16.	
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25.7% Ash 10,430 B.Th. Us/lb.	• • · · · ·				
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·						24.8 % Ash 10,570 B.Th. U.S per 18	71
Bureau of Mineral Resources						J	+
	Geo	logy & Geophysics	100			97	
Area: KIRBY'S HILL Hole Nº S.9 CULLEN BULLEN							67
		p Ref: <i>N/4</i> 77			****	100	
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33'10"	
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54' 7' 31.5 % Ach 9,730 B.Th.U.'s	
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