Alberta Research Council
Open File Rezort 1965-B

Sucker Creek Indian Reserve

Test Drilling Program 8 - 18 - 74 - 14 - W5

for the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Agency

by

O. Tokarsky

November 1965





SUCKER CREEK INDIAN RESERVE - TEST DRILLING FRUGRAM August 24th - Cember 2nd, 1965

Conducted by C. Tokarsky, Groundwater Division,
Research Council of Alberta,
for the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Agency, High Prairie, Alberta.

Introduction

The Groundwater Division conducted a well survey in the Sucker Creek area during the summer of 1964. The results of this survey were reported in a letter to Mr. J. R. Willi of the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Agency, dated August 11th, 1964. All the chemical analyses had not been received at that time. An up-to-date map showing sampled localities and the iron content of well waters is included with this report (Enclosure \$1).

In shallow wells throughout the Reserve. This is also a problem in the general High Frairie area (where wells at all depths down to over 600 feet are high in iron) and all along the south shore of Lesser blave Lake. The only continuing source of good potable groundwater is a spring in coarse gravel 4 miles west of Paust and approximately 15 miles east of the Sucker Creek Reserve. Water for household use is hauled from this spring to residents at Sucker Creek, and to farmers in the Enilds area some 10 miles further west.

The town of High Prairie obtains its water supply from a buried channel sand partitive at a depth of 340 to 530 feet. The water is very high in iron, from 2 to over 5 parts per million (Provincial Analyst), possesses high alkalinity, contains dissolved gases, and has a brownish color. Considerable treatment is required, and oven then, all the color is not removed. This aquifer is present at Sucker Creek at a depth of 480 feet.

Three test holes were drilled at Sucker Cruek. All encountered squifers with a high iron content. All were filled in and abandoned. The logs of the test holes and chemical analyses of waters encountered in each are included in the back of this report.

Geology

The surficial geology of the area can be obtained from the boil burvey map

(Research Council of Alberta kept. #63). Alluvial flood-plain clay and silty clay

forms the farm soils. Fractically all the wells obtain water from silt or sand

phases of the alluvium which is a few tens of feet thick over most of the area. It is

believed that all wells on the Sucker Creek Reserve obtain water from these deposits.

The alluvial materials contain organic debris and are moderately well drained. It is

believed that these two conditions would result in much of the available from being

leached from the soil and carried downwards into the zone of groundwater accumulation,

as explained in the next section.

Glacial till underlies the alluvium. It comes to the surface about 3 miles south of Entide and trends approximately eastward from there to form the heavily wooded higher land south of Sucker Creek Reserve. The till is underlain by a thick sequence of preglacial lacustrine(?) silty clay. This in turn is underlain by preglacial send which rests on shale bedrock of the Smoky group. The formations in test hole *i may be interpreted as follows:

0- 38 feet allevial sit, sand and clay
38- 90 feet glacial till with sandy lenses
90-480 feet preglacial facustrine(?) sitty clay
480-485 feet preglacial sand.

The Faust spring emerges from 'preglacial gravels exposed at the surface over an area of approximately 1 square mile.

The wapiti Formation, a sandstone-shale sequence which would be expected to contain aquifers yielding potable water forms the hadrock (beneath a thin drift cover) from about 3 miles south of Sucker Creek ineserve southwards.

The Wapiti Formation is underlain by the Smoky Group, which is predominately shale, but includes the Bacheart Sandstone. The Bacheart Sandstone was an objective in test hole #1 where it was expected to be encountered at approximately 430 feet. This formation has, however, been removed at this location, by proglacial crosson.

Well Survey Results and Groundwater Chemistry

The U.S. Public Health bervice recommends a limit of U.3 parts per million of iron in water for domestic use. This limit is set, not on the basis of toxicity, but on esthetic and taste considerations. People, and livestock as well, are sensitive to the mate of iron in water. Amounts in excess of this limit will stain plumbing fixtures, cooking utensils and laundry.

In the area under consideration from Enilda to Joussard (enclosure #1), only three small regions can be outlined which have iron concentrations in the groundwater of less than 1.0 part per million. All are outside the limits of the reserve. In subdition, a few individual wells, some of these within the reserve, have concentrations of less than 0.3 parts per million.

It is believed that in most cases the relatively low iron concentrations can be attributed to one of two factors:

(i) In unused or little used wells, iron-bearing groundwaters are in contact with the air for extended periods. Cxidation of iron from the soluble formus state, to the less soluble ferric state will occur. The iron will precipitate out and settle downwards in the water. Some of this iron will in all likelihood be redissolved as it moves downward into less oxidizing conditions. A water sample collected from the surface, or very near the surface, of the water in the well could be low in iron content

for some time, usually an hour. The rate of which the water level rises gives a rough idea of the yield to be expected. On this basis, the two most promising equifers are:

- (1) sand at 480-485 feet in test hole #1
- (2) sand at 20-25 feet in test hole #3.

The sand squifer in test hole #3 was bailed for 50 minutes at approximately 25 gallons per minute and drew down 9.8 feet. There was 11 feet of available draw-down.

Bailing in test hole #1 was at 14 gallons per minute for 1/2 hour. Erawdown was not measured. There was 471 feet of available drawdown.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Two squifers were encountered which would probably be able to supply sufficient water for community use, a shallow sand in test hole *3 and a deep sand in test hole *1. Both were too high in iron to be useable without treatment.

The results of the well survey indicate that all groundwaters in the immediate vicinity of the tenerve are high in iron. The area south of the reserve is heavily forested and generally inaccessible. It is believed that opportunities for more favorable supplies do exist in this area where the underlying bedrock consists of wapiti sandstones and shales (i.e. 3 miles or more south of the reserve). The only other known source of available potable groundwater is the Faust spring 15 miles to the east, from which water is hauled to the reserve at the present time. Treatment of water with a high iron content in a well at Driftpile, 12 miles east of the Sucker Creek Reserve, has been attempted but has not proved satisfactory.

I would recommend that hauling of water from the Faust spring be continued.

Littling to the south of the reserve could be considered, although even if a favorable

supply were located, hauling would still be necessary. A solution, which I believe some of the personnel at the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Agency favor, is the installation of a water reservoir and purification system on Sucker Creek, similar to that at kinuso. Some of the Indians I have talked to on the reserve favor the installation of cisterns at each house and the purchase of a water truck for continued hauling of water from the Faust spring. Both solutions have instit and should be considered on the basis of economics, convenience, and long-term use.

The cost of construction of the earth reservoir at kindso was in the order of \$75,000. The reservoir stores 6-months supply for about 400 people. Treatment includes flocculation, filtration, seration, and chlorination. There is no problem with iron. The reservoir stores water from Swan Liver. If a similar reservoir is considered for the Sucker Creek Reserve, the source of water would probably be sucker Creek or Arcadia Creek. This water is organically coloned. A water nample taken from Arcadia Creek in June 1964 had only a trace of iron. It is not known if the iron content would increase during different times of the year.

December, 405

LOGS OF TEST HOLES AND CHEMICAL ANALYSES
OF AQUIFERS

Sucker Creek Indian Reserve Test Hole #1

Approximate location and elevation: Approx. Lsd. 8, Sec. 18, Tp. 74, R. 14, W. 5 Mer.

Drilled by church in Eddie Callio's yard, about 200 feet south of house. 1915 feet estimated elevation.

0- 10	yellowish clayey sand, fine to medium grained. Water from 5 feet (water table). Water high in iron, over 7 ppm. Water sample #1.
10- 20	dark grey clayey sandy silt
20- 35	algues silt mixed with silty clay: sand stringers
35- 38	coarse pebbly sand. Water sample #2. High in iron- 4ppm
38- 75	till, not very stony, dark grey
75 - 78	clayey sand, very fine to fine grained; very little water
78- 90	grey till, few stones
90- 95	poorly sorted bentonitic sand; very little water. Sample #3
	Iron 0.6 ppm
95-120	smooth grey clay, silty
120-135	smooth grey clay, slightly to non-silty
135-155	smooth grey clay, silty
155-190	smooth grey clay, very silty; gas at 160 feet
190-275	smooth grey clay, silty; gas at 210 feet
275-305	smooth grey clay, slightly silty
305-450	smooth grey clay, non-silty; gas at 365 feet
450-465	smooth grey clay, silty; gas at 450 feet
465-480	smooth grey clay, non-silty
480-485 (T.D.)	fine-grained sand. Water sample #4 Iron over 10 ppm. Gas in water and oil scum on water Bailed hole for 1 hour 15 minutes. Took another water sample (#5) Iron 10 ppm

Test Hole #2

Approximate location and elevation: Approx. Lsd. 5, Sec. 17, Tp. 74, R. 14, W. 5 Mer. 1915 feet estimated elevation.

Drilled approximately 100 yards west of house of Marilia Willier.

0- 15	brownish sand, fine to medium grained. Water from 6 feet (water table). Water sample #1. Iron over 10 ppm and highly
	colored.
15- 19	grey sand, fine to medium grained, somewhat clayey
19- 37	dark grey till, few stones
37- 42	fine grained clean white sand. Not much water. Water sample #2
	Iron 2 ppm.
42- 70	till, few stones
70-100 (T.D.)	Smooth grey clay, silty.

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4

Test Hole #3	- Approx. location: Lsd. 13, Sec. 8, Tp. 74, R. 14, W. 5 Mer. Elevation estimated at 1918 feet.
0- 5	soil profile
5- 15	brownish, poorly sorted sand, fine to medium grained, clayey
15- 20	dark grov sand otherwise as above
20- 25	poorly sorted sand, some fine gravel. <u>Water sample "1</u> . Iron 3 ppm. Put in slotted casing. Bailed for 1 hour at about 25 gpm. <u>Water sample #2</u> taken after bailing. Field test for iron – Iron still high.
25- 30	dark grey till, few stones
30- 45	smooth grey clay, silty
45- 50	fine clayey silt
50- 60 (T.D.	smooth grey clay, very silty

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EDMONTON, ALBERTA CANADA

WATER ANALYSIS REPORT CHEMICAL

Submitted by	Research Council		October 1, 1965
			October 21, 1965
		. Source of Samp	le
Container No	от 001-2	Serial No	
	Similar Crack Fost hole #20 0-15'	Lab. No.	65 - 11864
	PARTS PER MI	ILLION	
Fotal Solids	336	Carbonate	nil
Egnition Loss	124	Bicarbonate	201.3
Tardness	160	Calcium	44
Sulphates	60	Magnesium	12.2
	11	Sodium	37.2
Alkalinity	165	Potassium	11.5
Nature of Alkalinity	Bicarbonate of lime, ma	gnesium and tra	ce soda
Nitrite Nitrogen	nil		
Nitrate Nitrogen	nil		
iron	10+ Field test for inon not (Water for highly cod	titlempted.	
Fluorine			
REMARKS:	pH 7.3		

C Emerson Noble Provincial Analyst



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WATER ANALYSIS REPORT CHEMICAL

omitted by	Research Council	Date received	October 1, 1965
ess		Date reported	October 21, 1965
		Source of Samp	le
iner No	OT 007-2 Sucker Creek test hole #3	Serial No.	
17 .	20-25	Lab. No	65 - 11859
The state of the s	Efter & hour of balling to der PARTS PER	MILLION	
Solids	386	Carbonate	
tion Loss	74	Bicarbonate	
ess	220	Calcium	49.2
ates	119	Magnesium	23.5
orides	nil	Sodium	56.9
nity	210	Potassium	10.5
ure of Alkalinity	Bicarbonate of lime a	and magnesium	
Nitrogen	nil		
e Nitrogen	nil		
L	3 . Fill test for iron	(Hach kit)	ν +
ne	3. Fill test for iven 5+ ppm - bith	wed by turbidity y we	in in work.
MARKS:	0.8 Ha		

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EDMONTON, ALBERTA CANADA

WATER ANALYSIS REPORT CHEMICAL

ubmitted by	Research Council	Date received	October 1, 1965
dress		Date reported	October 21, 1965
1		Source of Sam	ple
Container No	OT 009-2	Serial No	
	Sucker Creek test lule #3 20-25'	Lab. No.	65 - 11861
L	offer 50 mins. hailing PARTS PER MII	LLION	
al Solids	378	Carbonate	
gnition Loss	76	Bicarbonate	
lardness	185	Calcium	44.0
phates	95	Magnesium	18.2
Chlorides	nil	Sodium	69.9
alinity	225	Potassium	4.6
Ture of Alkalinity	Bicarbonate of lime, mag	nesium and soc	da
litrite Nitrogen	níl		
rate Nitrogen	nil		
ron	nil Full test for iron (h. 5+ pp.m - b.thired	all kid) by turbulity of	color in water.
?~MARKS:	рн 8.3		

C. (Emerson Noble Provincial Analyst

SUCKER CIULI RUSERVE - CHEMICAL ANALYSES

- July 23/64

Results of analysis of twenty-seven samples of water from Sucker Creek Reserve for color, iron, magnesium, calcium, sodium & chloride.

			_			_		•
Se 'e Humber	SOURCE Name	Station		Iron (Fe) (Total) P.P.M.	Magnes- ium (Mg) P.P.M.	Cal- cium (Ca) P.P.M.	Sodium (Na) P.P.M.	Chloride (Cl) P.P.M.
	Tommy Willier	73	30.0	0.5	8.7	29.6	8.0	5.0
1	Charlie Woods	75	40.0	36.0	22.8	80.7	17.0	26.0
_	Charlie Woods	75-B	40.0	36.0	22.8	76.5	18.0	26.0
	Joe Badger	76-1	5.0	0.6	22.8	63.5	11.0	2.0
	Joe Badger	76-2	130.0	16.0	12.3	.42.0	7.0	2.0
	Joe Badger	76-3	40.0	0.2	24.2	91.0	12.0	53.0
	Frank Cardinal	77-1	30.0	20.0	16.8	63.2	7.0	2.0
	Frank Cardinal	77-2	10.0	0.7	9.6	22.2	3.0	2.0
	Jim Willier	73-1	5.0	14.0	31.5	84.0	17.0	17.0
0	Jim Willier	78-2	30.0	2.4	22.4	56.8	11.0	21.0
	Scotty Willier	79-1	40.0	12.0	12.8	49.5	13.0	3.0
6	Scotty Willier	79-2	50.0	7.2	50.8	169.0	31.0	101.0
3	Joe Willier	80	40.0	1.4	12.3	44.5	10.0	3.0
	Jeremy Gautier	81	15.0	1.8	16.0	40.4	16.0	2.0
E		20	gn n	٠, ١	74 5	50 'N	7 0	ח חו

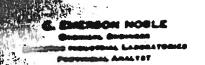


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WATER ANALYSIS REPORT CHEMICAL

Submitted by	Research Council	Date received	October 1, 1965
\ddress		Date reported	October 21, 1965
()		Source of Samp	ole
Container No.	от 006-2	Serial No	
	Marilia Willier - bereit will		65 - 11863
_	PARTS PER MI	LLION	
'otal Solids	416	Carbonate	nil
Tgnition Loss	176	Bicarbonate	366
Hardness	325	Calcium	74.1
ulphates	26.5	Magnesium	34.0
Chlorides	7	Sodium	18.9
lkalinity	300	Potassium	0.8
Tature of Alkalinity	Bicarbonate of lime and	magnesium	
Nitrite Nitrogen	nil		
litrate Nitrogen	nil		
Iron	25+ thich left test for from a	at altempted.	
luorine		•	
{EMARKS:	рн 7.0		. (.





EDMONTON. ALBERTA CANADA

WATER ANALYSIS REPORT CHEMICAL

ubmitted by	O. Tokarsky	Date received July 6, 1964
iress	Research Council	Date reported July 9, 1964
		Source of Sample Stn # 42, Enilda Ancida Crack - I bridge Serial No.
tainer No.		Serial No.
		Lab. No
	PARTS P	ER MILLION
1 Solids	224	
nition Loss	134	
lness	80	
Inhates	22	
ıorides	nil	•
ilinity	85 »	
nture of Alkalinity	Bicarbonate of li	me, magnesium and soda
tes	nil	
t-ates	nil	
'n	trace	
rine		•
EMARKS:		
	Motor is chemical	ly suitable.

C. Emerson Noble Provincial Analyst



EDMONTON, ALBERTA CANADA

WATER ANALYSIS REPORT CHEMICAL

	o Malamalan	Data massissed	August 17, 1964
	0. Tokarsky		
2	Research Council	Date reported	August 21, 1964
		Source of Samp	ple
er No	Stn. 4-B	Serial No.	
		Lab. No	64 - 19115
	PAR	TS PER MILLION	
olids	176		•
on Loss	110		
is	80	*	
ates	11	8	
iues	9		
ty	55		
e of Alkalinity	Bicarbonate	e of lime and magnesium	
Nitrogen	nil		e
e Nitrogen	nil		
	4		
ARKS:	w.		€
inks:	Ca 16.	2 Ca/1/2 = 1.69/1	
· hang	Mg 9.	6	
U.		96 116: .	
		5 <u>14</u>	C. Emerson Noble Provincial Analyst
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EDMONTON, ALBERTA CANADA

WATER ANALYSIS REPORT CHEMICAL

nitted by	O. Tokar	sky		v	Date received	August 17, 1964
· s						August 21, 1964
						Leo Heisz
er No.	Stn. 1-1	3			Serial No.	
					Lab. No	64 - 10114
	Man/64		PARTS 1	PER MILI	LION	
: Golids	1052	688				
ion Loss	256	284 ,				
i_ess	20?	420				
tes	215	56				
rides	-16	71				ž
i ity	355	335				
re of Alkalinity	bicarb. of soda.					
Nitrogen	nil	trace		íu.		
: Nitrogen	nil	2.0				
	5+	4				
: ne						6341
IARKS:		Ca	- 115.4	Ca: Mij	= 3.62:1	
		Mg -	- 31.9	J		**
U.			319 []]	3.61 157 9.70		2/1
				157		16 11 000
Ц			1	914		C. Emerson Noble Provincial Analyst



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WATER ANALYSIS REPORT CHEMICAL

litted by	0. Tok	arsky			Date received	Ma	y 15, 19	64
S	Resear	ch Coun	cil		Date reported	Ma	y 22, 19	164
uner No.	Stn. #	3			Source of San Serial No Lab. No	8 -	16-74-15	W5
			PARTS F	PER MILL		М.Т		
lids		732						
on Loss		130						
Luss		120						
es		263						
ides	:*8	10						
ty		170						
e of Alkalinity		Bicarb	onate of	soda, l	ime and magn	esium		
Ca		nil						
	E.	nil						
		10.0						
ARKS:								
		Water	is chemi	cally su	itable when	Iron sett	les.	
U.		ile.						111-
						C. Pro	Emerson	Noble Analyst

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EDMONTON, ALBERTA CANADA

WATER ANALYSIS REPORT CHEMICAL

			CAIDINA	1011-					
nitted by	0. Toka	csky			ate receive	ed	August 1	7, 1964	++++
is					Date reporte	ed	August 2	1, 1964	
				C	Source of Sa	mple	Howard P	eever	
_ner No.	Stn. 5-	В		S	Serial No				
		"		I	_ab. No		64 - 101	16	
	B. 1.4	1	PARTS PER	MILLIO	N				
3olids	May 154 642	528							
tion Loss	122	184							
c_ess	25	300							
ites	271	200							
prides	ni1	2							
nity	50	155							
ure of Alkalinity		Bicarbo	nate of 1	ime and	magnesiu	m			
Nitrogen	tr.	nil			•				
e Nitrogen	1,5	nil					## T		
1	tri	3.0							
: ne									
MARKS:		Ca	80.8						
		Mg	ند: 23.8	Mg = 3:	31:1				
		**6		4, 1394			¥1		
			:35.18	11 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			6	6	
			ار	7/73	-		C. Emers	on Noble	; ; ; ;
							Provinci	al Analy	3 L

C. EMERSON NOBLE CHEMICAL ENGINEER PROVINCIAL ANALYST



EDMONTON, ALBERTA CANADA

WATER ANALYSIS REPORT CHEMICAL

Ų,	O. Tokarsky	Date received	August 17, 1964		
	Research Council				
	C				
c. No. ,	Stn. 6-B		64 - 10118		
	PARTS PER		4		
		MILLION			
o ls	266				
Loss	110				
S	150				
€	67				
es	2				
t'	60 [°]				
of Alkalinity	Bicarbonate of li	me and magnesium			
1trogen	nil				
trogen	nil				
	3.0				
E			*		
RKS:	an 38 1				
	Ca 38.1	15 = 2.36/1			
1	Mg 13.3	<u>.7</u> 55	y mea		
<u>.</u>	133/361· 三丝	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
	1159		C. Emerson Noble		
	1000 1 1		Provincial Analyst		



EDMONTON, ALBERTA CANADA

WATER ANALYSIS REPORT CHEMICAL

nitted by	O, Tokarsky	Date received June 15, 1964
Press		Date reported June 17, 1964
	•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	Source of Sample Stn. #27, J. Jacobs, Enilda
ainer No.		Serial No.
L	12	Lab. No64 = 7024
	PARTS P	ER MILLION
al Solids	730	
on Loss	248	
ness	485	
phates	158	
ides	3	,
alinity	350	
ure of Alkalinity	Bicarbonate of li	me and magnesium
es	trace	•
rates	0.3	×i
	0.7	
orine		
vrARKS:	**	lu autabla
	Water is chemical	Ty sultable.
		- /iv
<u></u>		C. Emerson Noble
		Provincial ANalyst

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EDMONTON, ALBERTA CANADA

WATER ANALYSIS REPORT CHEMICAL

		<u> </u>		
mitted by	0. To	karsky	Date received	July 6, 1964
::ss	Resea	rch Conncil	Date reported	July 9, 1964
	***************************************		Source of Sample	Stn # 43, Faust, Albert
tainer No			Serial No.	Fanst (Siring)
	ا الأمانامعين آ	PARTS PER M	Lab. No	64 - 7988
	T.P.	PARTS PER M	ILLION	
Solida	183	184		
tion Loss	11	44		
dness	81	75		
ites	7	10		
orides	2.5	nil		
a_nity	1 31 45 63 603	150		
of Alkalinity	10	Bicarbonate of soda, 1	lime and magnesium	
ites	0.018	nil [®]		
e :s	1.4	nil		
	nil	0.2		
ne				9
rks:			deal.	
		Water is chemically su	illable.	

C. Emerson Noble Provincial Analyst



EDMONTON, ALBERTA CANADA

WATER ANALYSIS REPORT CHEMICAL

	CHE	MICAL
ntted by	O. Tokarsky	Date received August 17, 1964
	Research Council	Verify to these property
		Source of Sample N. Austad
500	Stn. 74-1	with phy war in
*		Lab. No. 64 - 10107
	PARTS PI	ER MILLION
Solids	274	
ion Loss	108	
ess	240	
hates	71	
Ades	nil	
nity	225	
are of Alkalinity	Bicarbonate of	lime and magnesium
: Nitrogen	nil	
ete Nitrogen	nil	
	2.0	
ne		¥
IARKS:	Ca 64.6	: Mg = 3.40:1
	Mg 19.0	

3 A 19 131 13 19 137 6

CEN:pm

C. Emerson Noble Provincial Analyst



EDMONTON, ALBERTA CANADA

WATER ANALYSIS REPORT CHEMICAL

	CILDITION	
bmitted by	O. Tokarsky	Date received August 17, 1964
	Research Council	27 124
	,	Source of Sample N. Austad
ntainer No.	Stn. 74-2	Serial No.
		Lab. No. 64 - 10108
	PARTS PER MI	LLION
1 Solids	352	
nition Loss	140	*
ardness	305	
hates	28	
ulorides	5	
llinity	275	
ture of Alkalinity	Bicarbonate of lime	and magnesium
trite Nitrogen	nil	
ate Nitrogen	nil	
on	2.0	
rine		
FMARKS:	Ca 78.5	= 2.97 ! }

Mg -- 26.4

264) 785. 526 526

CEN: pm

C. Emerson Noble Provincial Analyst ENCLOSURES

Encl. #2 Sucker Creek Indian Reserve test drilling, 1965

