

Appendix 5

Glass Sand Analysis

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REPORT ON SAND FROM CUDGEN

**For R.W. Corkery & Co. Pty Limited on
behalf of Gales Holdings Pty Ltd**

Introduction:

The aim of the testing was to determine if the Cudgen Sand is suitable for glass manufacture.

Testing:

Composite samples of each of four boreholes were made combining approximately 800g from each 1 to 10 metre sample and 10 to 20 metre sample.

Test Results: See Tables 1 and 2.

Discussion:

The test results show that the sand would require considerable beneficiation to approach glass grade sand chemical specification.

The required Fe₂O₃ level for amber glass is 0.25% and for flint glass 0.03%. The Fe₂O₃ content of the samples tested ranged from 0.67% to 0.95%.

Beneficiation undertaken by Dr. Tony Farmer of Agricola showed that with leaching with acqua regia the Fe₂O₃ content from a composite sample could be reduced to 0.08% but this type of beneficiation would not be commercially feasible.

After hand washing one of the borehole samples provided, it was noted under a 20x magnification there were considerable numbers of dark grains. There could be a number of possible minerals – but most likely ilmenite, possibly tourmaline, picotite or other spinels or chromium bearing minerals.

Ilmenite being FeO TiO₂ would be a source of iron in the sand.

The levels of TiO_2 in the samples varied from 0.18% to 0.34% showing a fairly low level of either rutile or ilmenite. Under a lens, there appears to be either reddish brown grains of zircon or rutile present in small quantities.

With the disappearance of mineral sands mines from the east coast, the price of Ilmenite has risen to over \$100/tonne (packed in bags) with Zircon around \$1500/tonne and rutile around \$700/tonne.

A heavy media test using bromoform liquid (SG 2.9) would separate the mineral sands (around 4.2 – 4.5 S.G.).

These heavy mineral sands would need to be removed in order to approach even an amber glass grade sand specification.

A major problem with the closest glass user Q.G.M and A.C.I subsidiary owned by Ownes Illinois is that they have only one bulk sand silo. This is used for sand from Stradbroke Island which is of exceptional quality, have a Fe_2O_3 content of 0.01%. This is used for both flint and amber glass at a price of about \$40/tonne F.I.S.

Q.G.M. would need a very good price to warrant building another silo for amber coloured glass.

Conclusion:

There are a number of impediments to making this sand into a glass grade sand especially noting the supply of Stradbroke sand of exceptional quality and is probably uneconomic.

The Cudgen sand's level of Al_2O_3 is high (due to clays etc) – 1.19% - 1.96% (Stradbroke 0.03%) as well as TiO_2 – 0.18% - 0.34% (Stradbroke 0.035%) and Cr_2O_3 – 0.03 – 0.06% (Stradbroke 0.0004%).

Admittedly, the Cudgen material is unwashed.

The presence of mineral sands – ilmenite, zircon and rutile should not be totally ignored and a simple bromoform or similar heavy media separation test could be carried out.

R.K. DRUITT
9th February, 2006.

Table 1: CUDGEN SAND

BOREHOLE:				
1 COMP		2 COMP		4 COMP
Metres: 1-10, 10-20		1-10, 10-20		1-10, 10-20
Method	Analyte	Units	LOR	
WEI-21	Recvd Wt	kg	0.02	1.51
ME-ICP85	Al2O3	%	0.01	1.75
ME-ICP85	Cr2O3	%	0.01	0.03
ME-ICP85	Fe2O3	%	0.01	0.67
ME-ICP85	SiO2	%	0.01	93.6
MC-ICP85	TiO2	%	0.01	0.29
ME-GRA05	LOI	%	0.01	1.16

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

Table 2: CUDGEN SAND

BOREHOLE:

Metres: 1-10, 10-20 1 COMP 2 COMP 3 COMP 4 COMP
1-10, 10-20 1-10, 10-20 1-10, 10-20 1-10, 10-20

SIZING ANALYSIS

Method	Aperture	Units	LOR				
SCR-61	+850um	%	0.1	0.1	2.0	2.0	0.1
SCR-61	+600um	%	0.1	0.2	1.8	2.0	0.3
SCR-61	+425um	%	0.1	1.0	4.6	6.7	0.7
SCR-61	+250um	%	0.1	14.5	43.8	43.1	24.7
SCR-61	+212um	%	0.1	52.5	29.6	29.0	44.9
SCR-61	+150um	%	0.1	17.2	9.1	7.2	13.3
SCR-61	+106um	%	0.1	7.5	3.2	2.0	3.0
SCR-61	+75um	%	0.1	1.5	0.7	0.6	1.1