DEPARTMENT OF MINES SOUTH AUSTRALIA

INDUCED POLARIZATION AND RESISTIVITY SURVEYS - KIA ORA AND SOUTH DAM PROSPECTS

Caroona and Mongolata 1:63 360 sheets

by

R.G. NELSON

and

W.E. WIGHTMAN Geophysicists

Exploration Geophysics Section

Rept.Bk.No.72/201 G.S.No.4967 D.M.No.897/72

		PREVIOUS GEOPHYSICAL WORK FIELD METHODS RESULTS AND INTERPRETATIONS CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS REFERENCES	2 3 5 11 12
		PLANS	
	Plan No.	Title	Scale
	S9894	Kia Ora/South Dam project Locality Plan.	1:7 000 000
	72-927	South Dam & Kia Ora prospects Location of I.P. lines and depth probes	1:100 000
۸.	72-928	Kia Ora prospect: contours of total aeromagnetic intensity	1:250 000
	72-929	Kia Ora prospect: contours of total longitudinal conductance	1:250 000
	72-930	Interpretations of depth probes	Diagrammatic
	72-931	Kia Ora prospect: interpreted depths to weathered granite	1:250 000
	72-932	Kia Ora prospect: interpreted depths to unweathered granite	1:250 000
	72-933	Kia Ora prospect: .V.E.S. NK3 and log of retary drill hole KR1	As shown
	72-934	South Dam prospect: I.P. and resistivity survey: lines 5500N and 6500N	1cm = 50 m
	72-935	South Dam prospect: I.P. and resistivity survey: lines 7500N, 5600N, 5300N	lem = 50 m
	72-936	South Dam prospect: I.P. and resistivity survey: lines 5500N and 5700N	1cm = 50 m
	72-937	South Dam prospect: resistivity depth probes SD1 and SD2	Logarithmic graphe
	72-939	Contours of resistivity and frequency effect for theoretical case: FBC-3	As shown
	S9364	Electrode arrays	Diagrammatic

PAGE

CONTENTS.

PREVIOUS GEOPHYSICAL WORK

ABSTRACT INTRODUCTION

DEPARTMENT OF MINES SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Rept.Bk.No.72/201 G.S.No.4967 D.M.No.897/72

INDUCED POLARIZATION AND RESISTIVITY SURVEYS KIA ORA AND SOUTH DAM PROSPECTS

Caroona and Mongolata 1:63 360 sheets

ABSTRACT

Resistivity depth probes made at points on a 1500 m grid in the Kia Ora area have been interpreted to give estimates of the depth of burial of granite which is thought to be an extension of the Bendigo granite.

Further to the south, near South Dam, where a rotary drill hole intersected anomalous concentrations of copper (at a depth of 110 m) a short distance above biotite granite, two depth probes and a number of induced polarization traverses have been made. Anomalous zones were detected: these warrant further investigation.

INTRODUCTION

Extensions of the Palaeozoic granite which is exposed at Bendigo (BURRA 1:250 000 sheet) were believed to exist, overlain by alluvium, to the south. It was thought that aeromagnetic anomalies outlined the areas of suspected granite.

A drilling programme was initiated in May, 1972 to determine whether granite underlies these areas and to examine the feasibility of completely grid drilling the prospects (Langsford, 1972). Six holes were drilled (rotary drilling), three timesach area. A limit of 120 m maximum depth of hole was imposed.

Of the three holes drilled in the Kia Ora area only one, KRl, intersected weathered granite (at 38 m - total depth of hole, 48 m). KR2 and KR3 passed through a sequence of clays underlying sands and were completed at 120 m without intersecting bedrock.

In the South Dam area drill holes SRl and SR2 were completed at 120 m in green fossiliferous clays underlying sands and gravels. However, SR3 intersected slightly weathered biotite granite at a depth of 116 m, and in this hole copper anomalies of 250 p.p.m. and 300 p.p.m. were detected at 105-111m.

As a result of this work the following recommendations were made:

- (1) that the northern part of the Kia Ora area be tested by rotary drilling to weathered granite on a 1500 m grid;
- (2) that the copper anomaly detected in SR3 be investigated more closely.

To aid in siting drill holes in the Kia Ora area it was proposed that a number of resistivity depth probes be made over the 1500 m grid to obtain some estimates of depth to granite under the alluvium.

Induced polarization traverses were recommended for the area around drill hole SR3 to test for possible mineralization.

PREVIOUS GEOPHYSICAL WORK

In 1960 the Bureau of Mineral Resources conducted an air-borne magnetometer survey of the area. Nominal flight line

spacing was one mile, and lines were flown at a height of 500 feet above ground level. The contoured map of total magnetic intensity shows two positive magnetic zones, outlined by the 1000 gamma contour lines, which have been interpreted as being due to granite bodies (see Plan No.72-927). The Bendigo granite occurs at outcrop in the northernmost part of the northern magnetic zone. The zones are characterized by steep gradients at the edges rising to a generally smooth plateau of about 1300 gammas which covers most of each area.

Resistivity depth probes had already been made in each area as preliminary investigations before the initial drilling programme (Nelson, 1972). Their interpretation indicated overburden to be generally greater than 25 m and often deeper than 150 m.

FIELD METHODS

(1) Kia Ora Prospect

A base line running north-south and pegged at intervals of 500 m has been established in the area. The starting peg is located on the main Burra-Kia Ora road about 2 km west of Kia Ora homestead and has been assigned arbitrary grid co-ordinates of (10000N, 10000E). Aerial photographs enlarged to a scale of about 1:26 900 were used to establish points on the grid away from the base line.

The method of vertical electrical soundings (VES) was used to estimate depth to granite at various points established on the grid. The VES made in the Kia Ora area are numbered NKL to NK56 and their positions are shown on Plan No.72-927.

Both the Schlumberger and the equatorial dipole-dipole electrode arrays were used in making the soundings. The equatorial dipole-dipole array is a special case of the azimuthal array (see Plan No.S9364). It can be shown (Al'pin et al., 1966, p.19) that values of apparent resistivity measured by the azimuthal array are equivalent to those measured by the Schlumberger array, provided a horizontally-bedded earth is assumed.

In making the measurements a square wave current was introduced into the ground through the current electrodes by means of a Geoscience Incorporated Induced Polarization transmitter. The potential difference between the potential electrodes was measured using a McPhar P660 Induced Polarization receiver which is capable of measuring signals at frequencies of 3 hz or 0.3 hz. Since it is easier to read signals at 3 hz, this was the frequency used throughout the survey. However, voltages for the last few points in each sounding were also measured at 0.3 hz to test for the so-called "skin effect" (see Kunetz, 1966, p.8).

Values of apparent resistivity were calculated and plotted in the usual way as a function of the current electrode spacing. Standard curves are available for interpreting such resistivity graphs (Orellana and Mooney, 1966).

(2) South Dam Prospect

A base line running north-south and pegged every 500 m has been established. The base line is defined by grid co-ordinate 10000E.=

Rotary drill hole SR3, which intersected granite, has grid cofordinates (6500N, 10000E). To test the copper anomaly found

in this hole three induced polarization traverses were made along lines 5500N, 6500N and 7500N. Each traverse was 4.4 km long, the middle of each traverse being on the base line at 10000E. The traverse lines were pegged at 150 m spacing using theodolite and chain.

Induced polarization measurements were made in the frequency domain using the polar dipole-dipole configuration and a dipole spacing of 150 m. Readings were made at frequencies of 3 hz and 0.3 hz. Current was introduced into the ground using an Austral Induced Polarization Transmitter and the frequency effects and voltages were measured on a McPhar P660 receiver.

As a consequence of this work four more I.P. traverses were made:

- (a) on line 5300; Tx from 10000E to 11200E;150 m dipole spacing;
- (b) on line 5700N; Tx from 10000E to 11200E; 150 m dipole spacing;
- (c) on line 5600N; Tx from 10000E to 11200E;
 150 m dipole spacing;
- (d) on line 5500N; To from 10000E to 11200E; 300 m dipole spacing.

Two vertical electrical soundings, SD1 and SD2, were made, one at grid co-ordinates (5500N, 10300E), and one at the site of drill hole SR3.

RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION

(1) Kia Ora Prospect

The results of VES NK3 (made at the site of drill hole

KR1) are shown in Plan No.72-933 together with their interpretation. There is good agreement between the theoretical curve for the interpreted model and the experimental data. If we compare the interpreted model with the drill hole geological log we can see that there is good agreement for the first 20 or 30 m. However, it appears that either there is no resistivity contrast between the clay underlying the sand and gravel bed and the weathered granite, or else that the resistivity contrast between the two is so slight that the effect it must have on the resistivity curve cannot be measured within the limits of experimental error. Accordingly, we would accept a depth to weathered granite of 22 m here and say that the weathered granite has a resistivity of 8.8 ohm metres. It is also worth noting that various combinations of thicknesses and resistivities (with constant conductance) for the sand and gravel layer produce theoretical curves very similar to the one shown and that the values of 8 m and 36 ohm metres were adopted because they gave the best agreement with the drilling data.

The depth of weathering in the granite seems to be of the order of 94 m which seems rather high. No allowance has been made for a continuous increase in the resistivity of the weathered zone (which would seem to be a valid assumption to make) and this may have resulted in an over estimate. The estimate of total depth to fresh granite of 116 m can be checked however, by multiplying the total longitudinal conductance, s, of the section by the average resistivity derived by radial transformation of

of the sounding curve (see footnote). This gives an estimated total depth of $12.0 \times 7.1 = 85.2 \text{ m}$.

It seems safe, therefore, to conclude that

- (a) the resistivity of the sand and gravel section is of the order of 30 40 ohm metres.
- (b) the resistivity of weathered granite is of the order of 10 ohm metres, and
- (c) the depth of weathering may be as much as 60 100 metres.

These conclusions have been used to aid in the interpretation of the remaining depth probes done in the Kia Ora area.

The results from interpretations of these are presented in Plan Nos.72-929, 72-931, and 72-932, representing respectively values of total longitudinal conductance,s, depths to weathered granite and depths to unweathered granite. Plan No.72-930 lists the interpretations derived.

In each case the conductance value, s, was derived graphically and can be regarded as an independent estimate of the sum of the conductances of all layers above basement. If the conductance pattern of these layers changes little throughout the area then the s map can be regarded as an expression of basement relief in the area.

It is readily seen that all three maps present a similar

Footnote: It is shown in Aljpin et al., 1966, p.107, that a radial sounding curve for a 3-layer H-type section is characterized by a minimum value of apparent resistivity which is nearly equal to the average longitudinal resistivity for the layers above basement, provided $h_2/h_1 \gg 3$, compared with a limit of $h_2/h_1 \gg 9$ for the corresponding Schlumberger curve. See Al'pin et al. for further details.

picture. Two basement highs are prominent on every map, one in the north-east corner running north-south with its axis coincident with line 11500E and finishing near 17500N, and the other trending north-east between grid co-ordinates (16000N, 7000E) and (17500N, 8500E). The first of these coincides with an elongated high in the aeromagnetic contours of the area (see Plan No.72-928): outcrops of granite also occur within it near (21500N, 11500E). The second is characterized by high values for the resistivities of layers interpreted as weathered granite (see results for NK10 and NK15). It is suggested that granite here may have been buried only recently and that it may perhaps have undergone silicification in Tertiary times.

Two more points are worthy of note:

- (a) the positions of depth probes where the sand and gravel bed seems to occur are shown on Plan No.72-931. This may be of use if any search is begun for sedimentary uranium deposits;
- (b) nearly every resistivity curve shows a sharp turning point just before the curve approaches the 45° asymptote characteristic of an insulating basement. This can be explained by postulating that there is a water-saturated low resistivity layer of weathered granite immediately overlying the fresh granite.

(2) South Dam Prospect

Plan No.72-927 shows the location of I.P. traverses and depth probes in this area.

Values of apparent resistivity, frequency effect and metal factor are presented for each I.P. traverse in Plan Nos.72-934 to

72-936. A word of caution is advisable when considering the interpretation of these results. A fairly high resistivity layer (of about 250 ohm metres) near the surface (possibly calcrete) made it difficult when making the measurements to get more than 2 amperes of current into the ground. At the same time, the low resistivities of the underlying clays meant that the measured signal was very low. particularly for separations of more than 3 dipole spacings between transmitting and receiving electrodes. Under these circumstances it is difficult to achieve a stable null point on the voltmeter potentiometer due to random telluric currents and hence the frequency effects measured at these spacings are in some doubt. If the values of frequency effect shown are expected, an examination of each set of diagrams does reveal anomalous zones which display a fairly consistent north-west trend across the grid (see Plan No.72-927). The shapes of the anomaly patterns are reasonably consistent with each other and are similar to those for theoretical case FBC-3 given in Geoscience Incorporated Induced Polarization Resistivity Cross-Sections Vol. II. This corresponds tota finite body of resistivity 10 ohm metres buried under a thickness of overburden equal to the dipole spacing (see Plan No.72-939).

Suggested drill holes to test these anomalies are at grid coffordinates:

10300E on line 5500N,
10500E on line 5700N,
8800E on line 7500N,
and 9400E on line 6500N,
in that order of priority.

The results of depth probe SD2 made at the site of drill hole SR3 are shown in Plan No.72-937 together with the interpreted model and the drill hole geological log. Agreement is seen to be good. It appears that the fossiliferous clays overlying the granite have higher resistivities than the granite which is surprising, as the granite was reported to be fresh to slightly weathered. It is possible that the granite may be jointed with water saturating the joints. Depth to completely unweathered granite seems to be of the order of 220 m.

Depth probe SDl was made at co-ordinates (5500N, 10300E) to estimate the depth to granite here. It was run in a north-south direction. The apparent resistivity curve (see Plan No.72-937) is characterized by a sharp trough near the middle of the curve. If this is considered to be due to a low resistivity horizontal bed, then interpretation 'A' holds and the estimated depth to unweathered granite is 64 m. However, there is good reason to suspect that the trough is due to a lateral discontinuity (viz. a low resistivity lens beneath (5600N, 10400E) - see Plan No.72-935). If the trough is treated as being due to this and a thick bed of resistivity 16 chm metres is assumed (see interpretation 'B' in Plan No.72-937) then a new estimate of the depth is 206 m. This estimate grees with the estimate of 150 m from theoretical case FBC-3 above.

As the polar dipole - dipole array is a special case of a radial array we can take the average resistivity of the upper layers as being (say) 10 ohm metres (minimum apparent resistivity on I.P. diagram for (5500N, 10300E)), and, multiplying this by S = 12.5 for the total longitudinal conductance, arrive at yet another estimate 6f 125 m for depth to unweathered granite. A better estimate could be arrived at by using another spread at right angles.

It would be desirable to test the low resistivity lens at (5600N, 10400E), and a drill hole to say 100 m is suggested for this.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(1) Kia Ora Prospect

It is believed that the maps presented give a reasonable estimate of basement relief in this area. Errors may arise in places where there is little resistivity contrast between clays and the underlying weathered granite, but overall the pattern seems to be consistent.

(2) South Dam Prospect

Given that there is some doubt about the frequency effect values measured in the I.P. survey due to measured voltages less than lmV there nevertheless seems to be a consistent anomalous trend in a direction north by north-west. The effect is strongest around line 5500N at 10300E. Drill holes have been suggested to test this. Should these drill holes show anomalous copper values, further investigation using I.P. methods is warranted. Some consideration should be given to changing electrode configuration to give stronger signals at the potential electrodes, however. It may be that the use of the time domain technique, measuring and averaging the results of coherent signals, is more suitable in areas such as this.

Any holes that are dilled in either of these areas should be logged geophysically to test for the possibility of uranium mineralization.

RGN, WEW: MFV 7th November, 1972

R.G. NELSON R.S. Sheloos.

and

E. WIGHTMAN W. E. Meglilin.

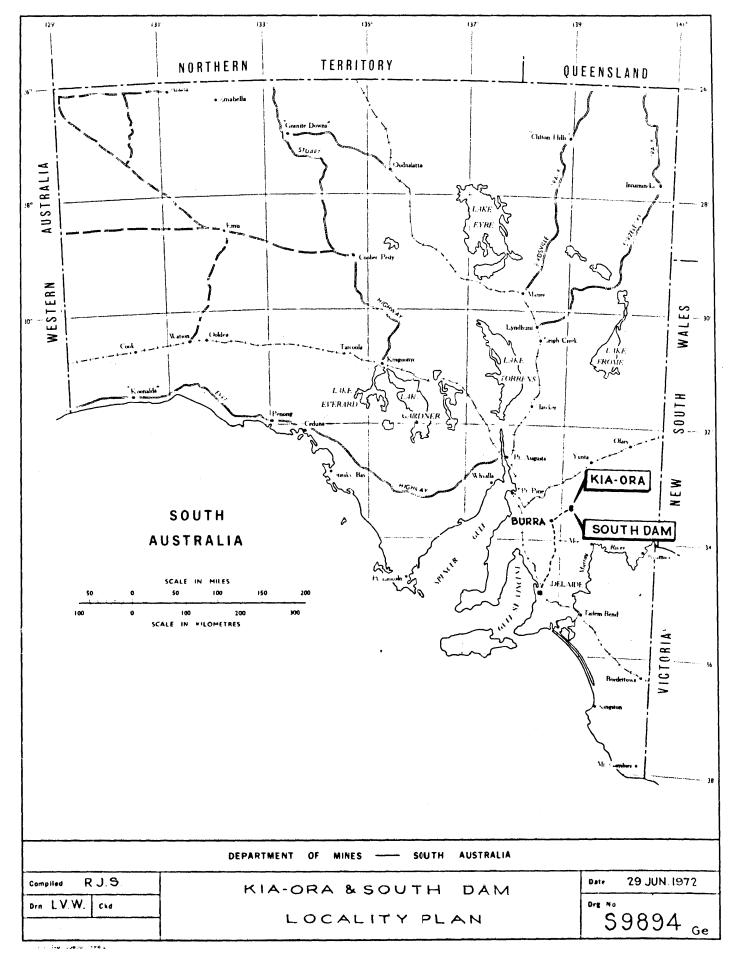
Geophysicists Exploration Geophysics Section

REFERENCES

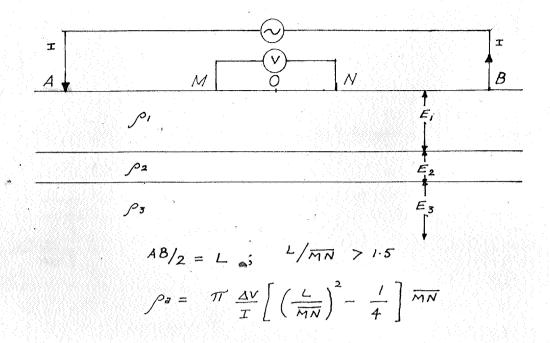
- Al'pin, L.M., Berdichevskii, M.W., Vedrinsten, G.A. and Zagarminstr,
 A.W., 1966. Dipole methods for measuring earth conductivity;
 (transl. G.V. Keller), Consultants Bureau, New York.
- Kunetz, G., 1966. Principles of direct current prospecting.

 Geopublication Associates, Berlin 103 pp.
- Langsford, N.R., 1972. Kia Ora South Dam project, BURRA 1:250 000 sheet, reconnaissance drilling S.A. Dept. of Mines report RB72/131 (unpubl).
- Nelson, R.G., 1972. The Bendigo aeromagnetic anomaly vertical electrical soundings made near Kia Ora and South Dam,

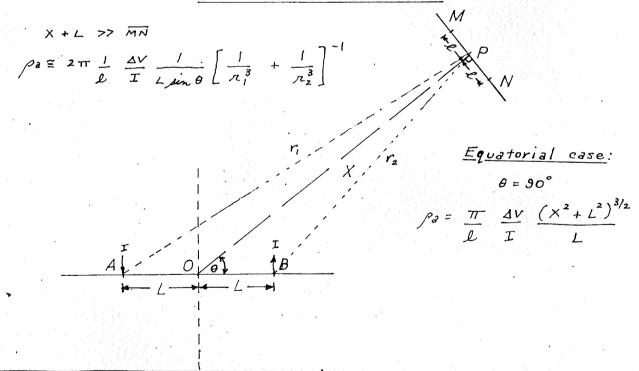
 Caroona and Mongolata 1:63 360 sheets. S.A. Dept. of Mines report RB72/106 (unpubl).



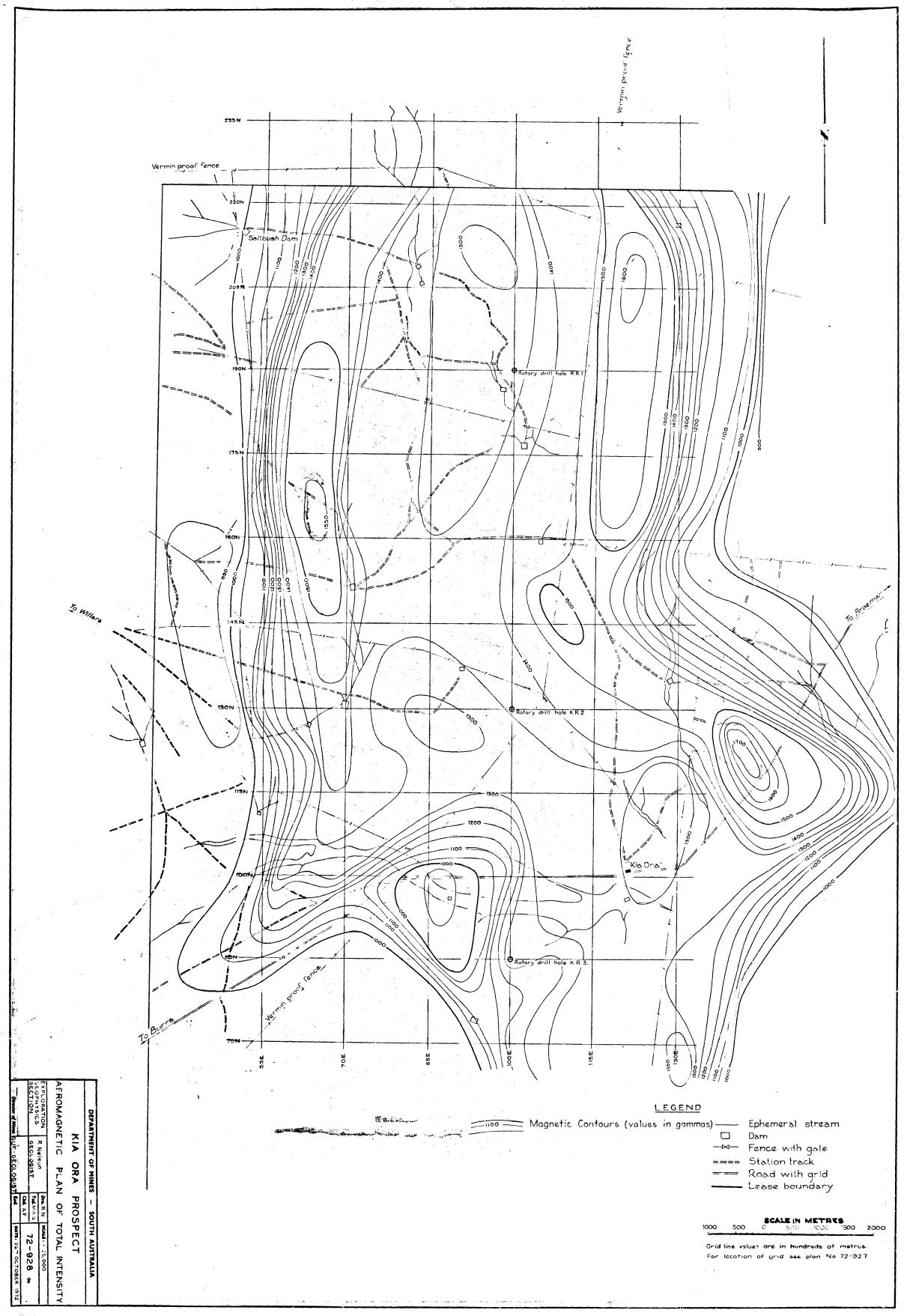
SCHLUMBERGER ARRAY

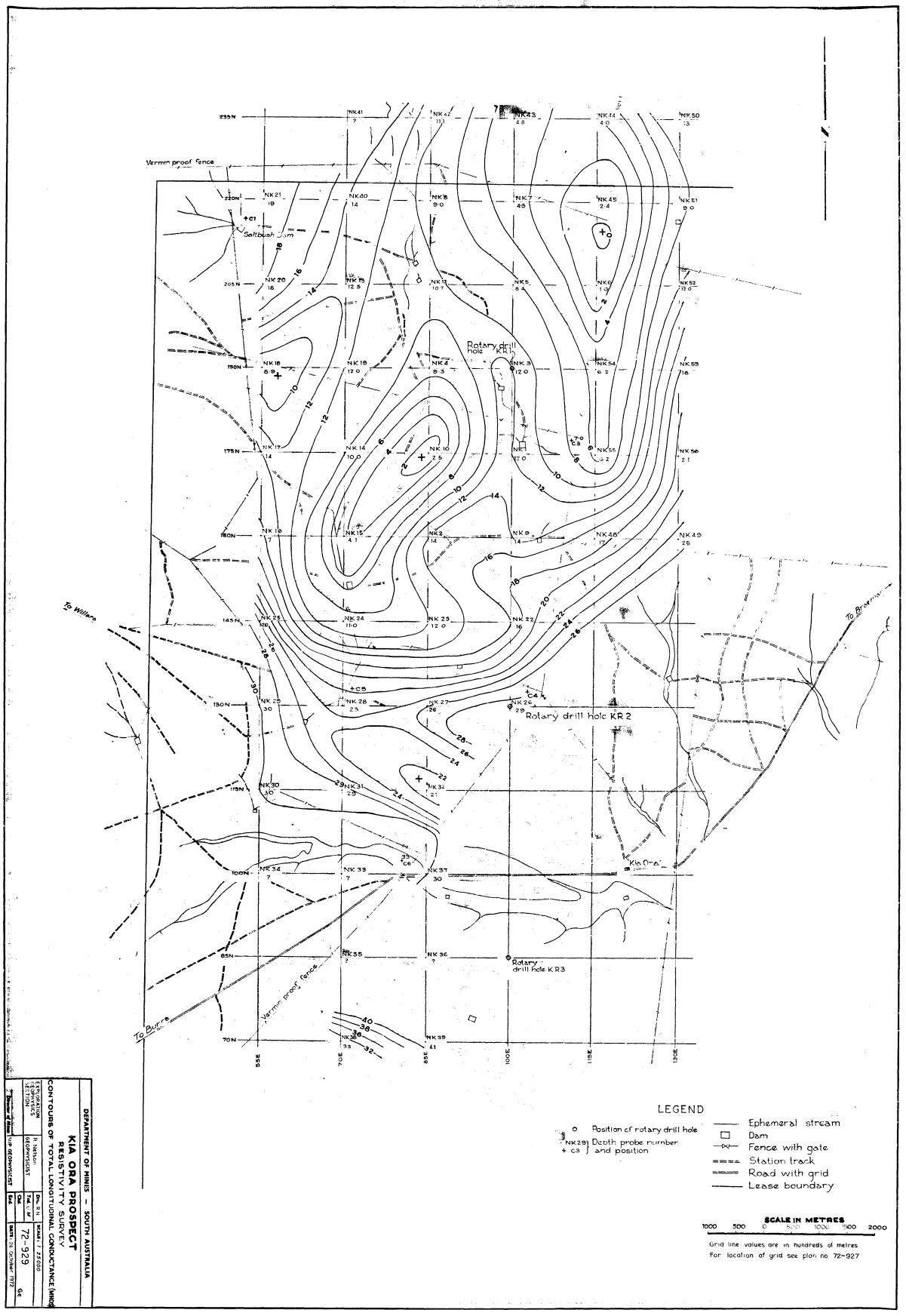


AZIMUTHAL DIPOLE ARRAY



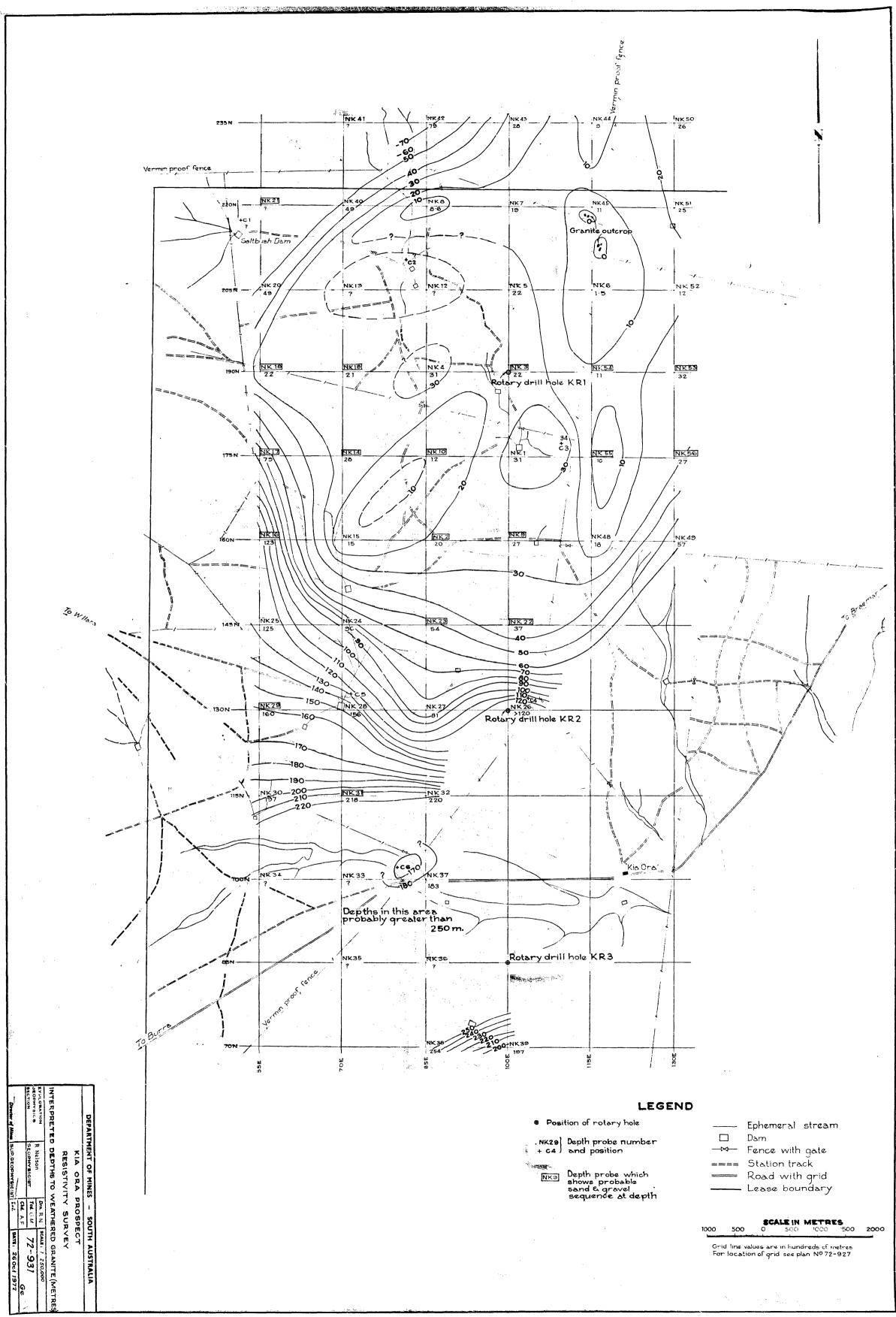
		DEPARTMENT OF MINES - SOUTH AUSTRALIA	Scale:	
Compiled: R. G. N.			Date: 26 - 7- 7/	
Drn.	Ckd.	ELECTRODE ARRAYS.	Drg. No. \$9364	
		·	Fd+1	

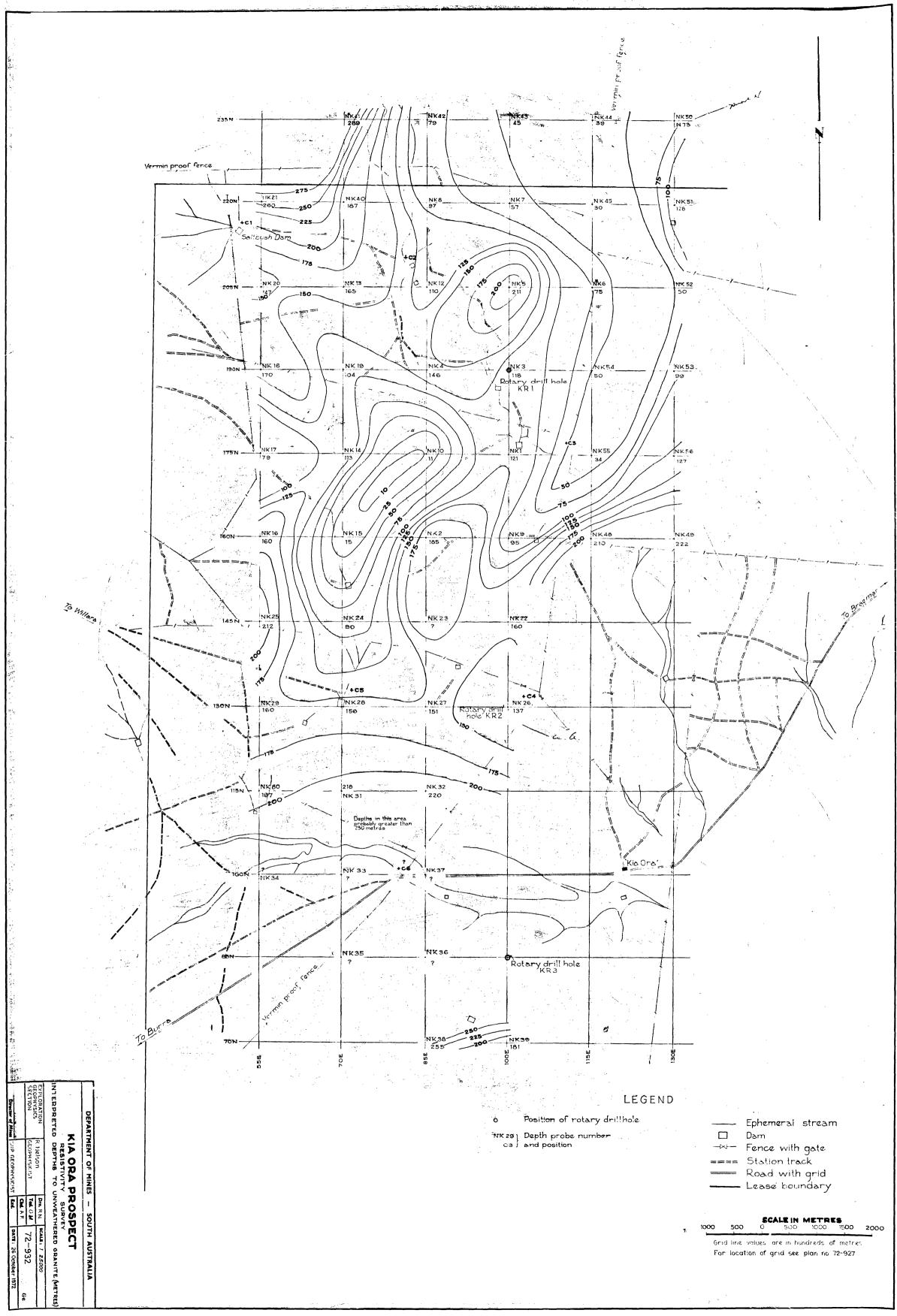




		55E	70E	85E	IOOE	115E	130E	_
	235N	÷ to the second	MK41 <u>Pi</u> <u>Ei</u> 100 0-6 33 16-4 34 272 6	NK42 <u>Pi</u> <u>Ei</u> 570	2/2 £i 360 07 36 /5 17 255 WG 7 168	NK 44 <u>Pi</u> <u>Ei</u> 103 05 52 82 W6 13.5 30.2 G	NK 50 P: Ei 146 0.5 29 10 7.7 8.9 3.2 15.3 30 20 42 27 6 29 7	235N
	220N	NK 21 P; £1 269 15 13 108 225 112 115 236	NK40 P: Ei 203 05 41 16 18 57 8 41 WG 73.8 /38 G ~~	NK6 P1 E1 94 06 94 16 WG 25 74 G 24 14	#K1 PI EI 3200 0.4 320 0.9 93 17.5 WIG 15 36 G 00 -	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	220N
	205N	MX 20 P1	NK 13 P1 E1 280 06 56 12 26 21 12 133 19 28 6 00 -	NK 12 Fi El 53 0-2 265 1-5 42 3-8 10 104 G	MK 5 PI EI 2220 1:2 111 3:2 WG 50 17:4 20 190 a 20 190	NK6 P	NK 52 Pi Ei 102 07 20 09 26 10-5 WG 15 10-2 G 4 26 5	205N
	190N	NK 18 P! E! 310 1.5 16 13.5 86 2.3 86 2.3 W6 22 148 6	## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ##	MK± <u>Pi</u> <u>Ei</u> 690 05 35 03 15 12 11 6 48 23 40 116 G	MK3 PI Ei 250 1:0 30 1:3 62 1:8 72 4:1 W6 9:1 100 G 00 0	MX.54 <u>Pi</u> <u>fi</u> 260 0-6 	#X.53 <u>Pi</u> <u>fil</u> 210 06 21 25 55 29 #G 30 36 G 7 33	190N
	[75N	NK 17 <u>Fi</u> <u>fi</u> 310 0-1 31 1-9 13 14 22 8 6 6-6 54 83 -	NX (4 Pi Ei 610 07 31 25 66 3.2 27.5 21.6 WD 9.2 85 G 9.2 85	### NKIO PL	NK P E	NK55 Pi 5i 100 05 10 90 WG 275 34 100 42 30 122 G 200	NK56 PL E1 290 0.4 38 1.5 7.4 22 WG 17.5 3.5 G 5 90 G	175 N
,	160 N	NX (6. Pi 41 840 0.6 42 2.6 43 2.0 47 3.1 W6 7.2 1/5 G 7.5 39	NK/5 D) Ei 500 07 25 1.8 108 126 WG 58 165	MK2 Pi EI 370 07 37 14 45 46 W6 31 /34 G 10.7 /65 G	NK9 PL E1 840 08 84 06 75 47 230 46 WG 1.4 12 G 77 80	NK48 P Ei 1700 04 425 14 425 14 94 165 G 125 192	MX 49 Pt St 94 0/6 19 /56 WG 3.8 405 G 125 /65	160N
	145N	7.1.25 97 49 300 0.5 30 1.0 14 3.3 W6 6.4 120 G 16.5 66	NK 24 Pi Si 129 0.5 129 27 1.4 16 WG 45 30 WG 7.5 38 G 770 -	MK 23 <u>Pi</u> <u>£i</u> 740	MK 22 <u>Pj</u> <u>£i</u> 720 07 18 25 36 /06 WG			145N
1 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1	NOET	NK 29 Pi Ei 390 05 39 1.7 41 09 174 108 66 146 WO 24.5	NK 28 <u>Pi</u> <u>Ei</u> 280 07 56 04 385 10 10 22 65 132 W6 68 -	## 27 ## 640 06 21 12 16 71 ## 67 72 ## 17 17 32 25 6 27	NK 26 PL Ei 230 1-1 14 3-1 34 34 WG 195 19 6 45 80			130N
	1:5 N	NK.30 Pi &i 101 0.5 18 1.9 66 15 81 43 50 36	MX31 Pi Et 330 07 33 20 38 1-1 15 66 WG 96 146 G 440 -	NX 32 Pi				115N
KIA ORA PROS	100N	MK34. P. Ei 128 01 256 09 17 41 105 28 575 100 102	NK33 Pi Ei 640 05 32 18 136 11 38 182 63 71 4	NX 37 P1 E1 180 1:0 36 0:3 21 4:2 46 24 27 22:5 44 13:2 6		TEG	END	1 ·
PECT TIONS			# <u>61</u> 111 06 222 24 48 39 35 26 10 -	AN 20 PI EL 380 05 38 14 41 72 24 20 31 /02 48 15 /4 -	B. #	Fi = thickness of ith i = 1,2,3,4, WG = top of weathere G = top of unveather	layer (metres) d granite	
RESISTIVITY SURVE OF DEPTH PROBES	70N			<u>NK 38</u> <u>Pi Ei</u> 220 05 44 38 69 250 ∞ -	NK38 Pi Ei 190 08 19 17 4-2 63 13-5 22 4-2 160 00 -			70N
S EY		55E	70E	85E	IOOE	(ISE	I30E	_

EXPLORATION R Noison Dr. R. Teals: diagrammatic section Teal Dr. R. Teal Dr. R





Drn. A.F.

Ckd. R.N

RESISTIVITY DEPTH PROBE

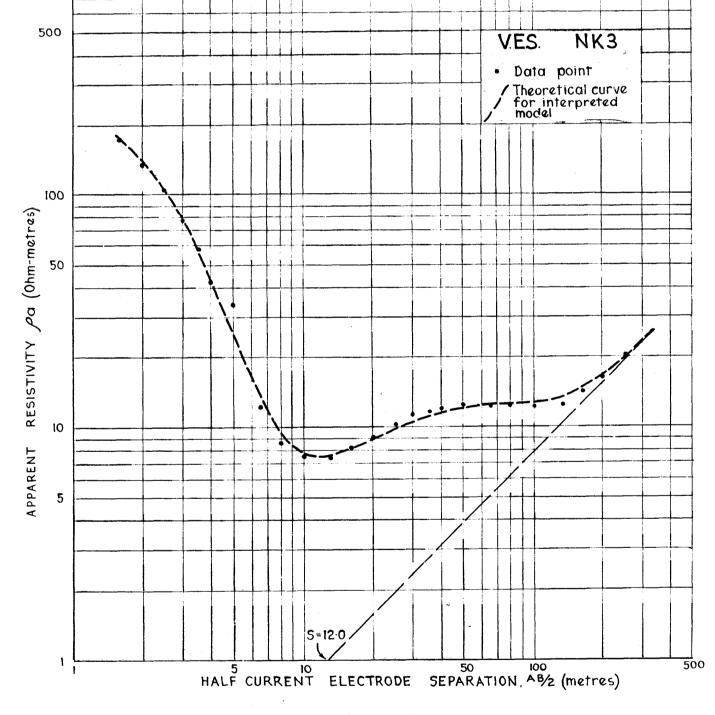
Compiled: R. Nelson

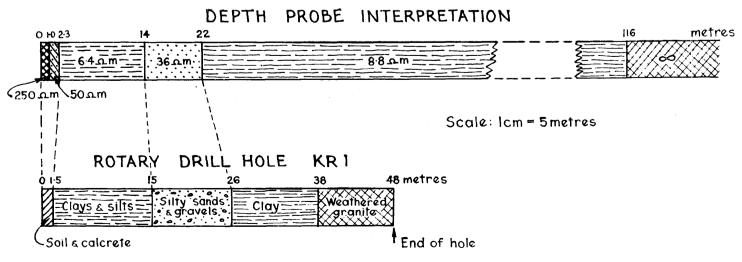
DEPARTMENT OF MINES - SOUTH AUSTRALIA

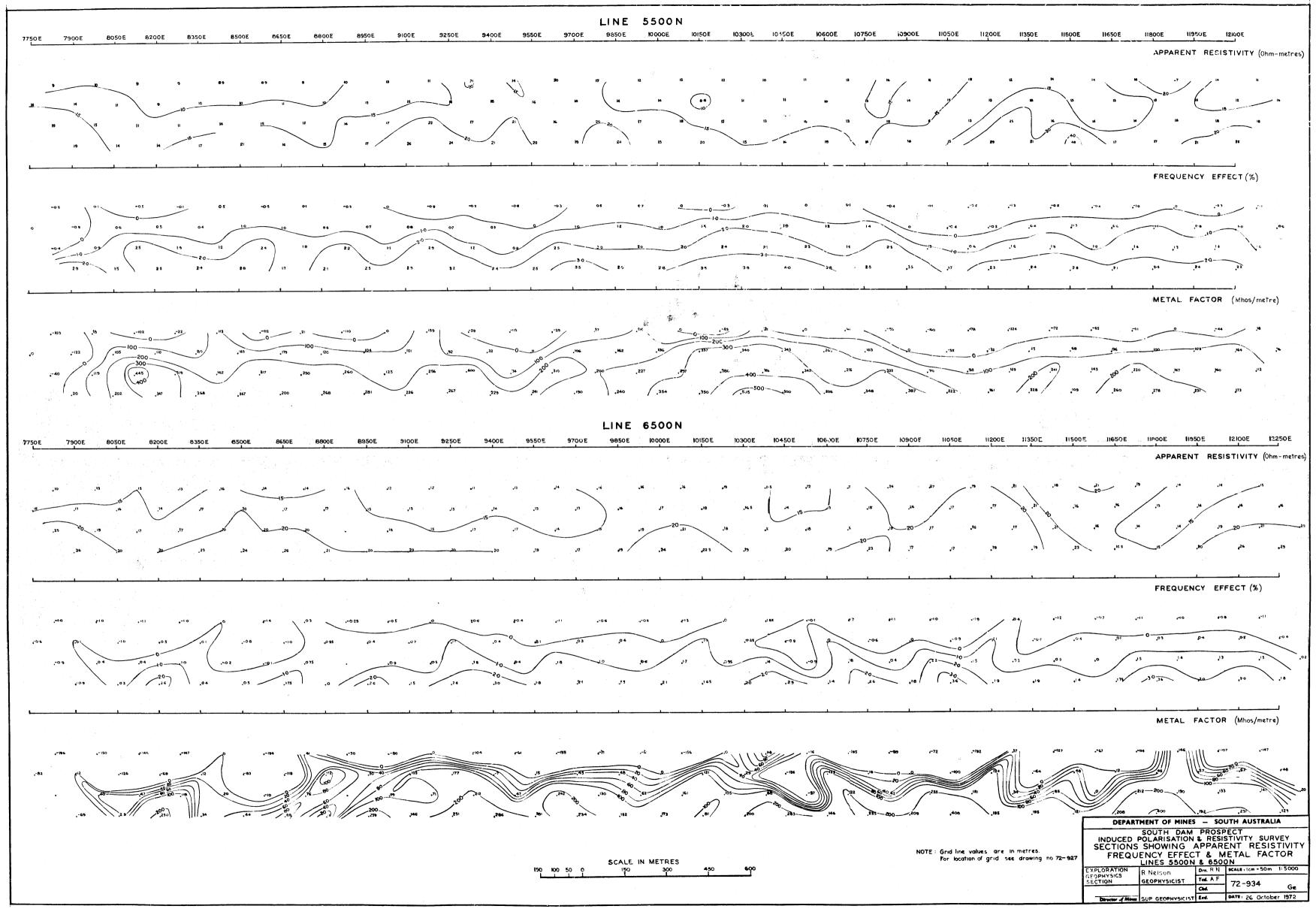
Date: 26 Oct. 1972

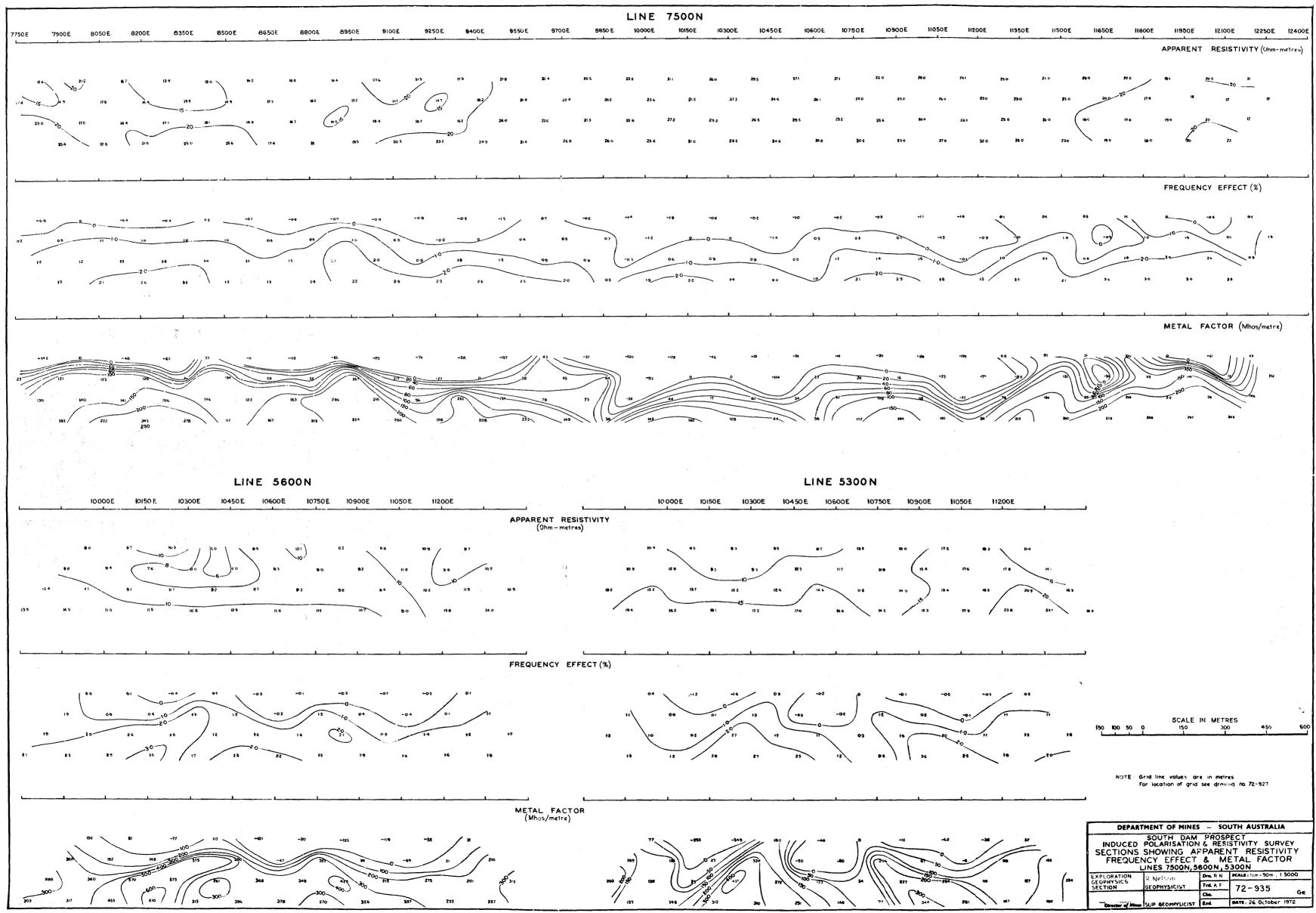
Scale: Graphical

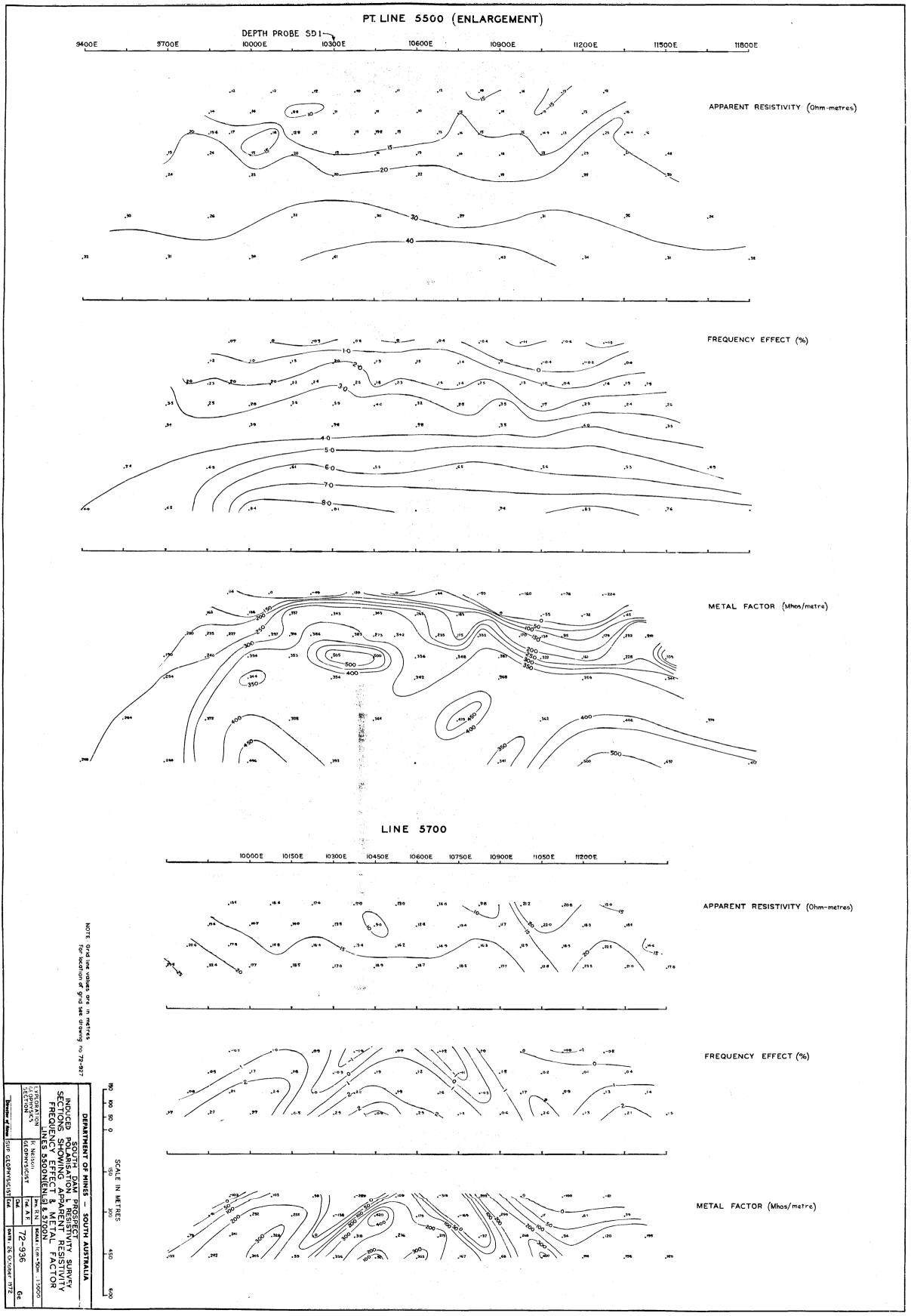
1000

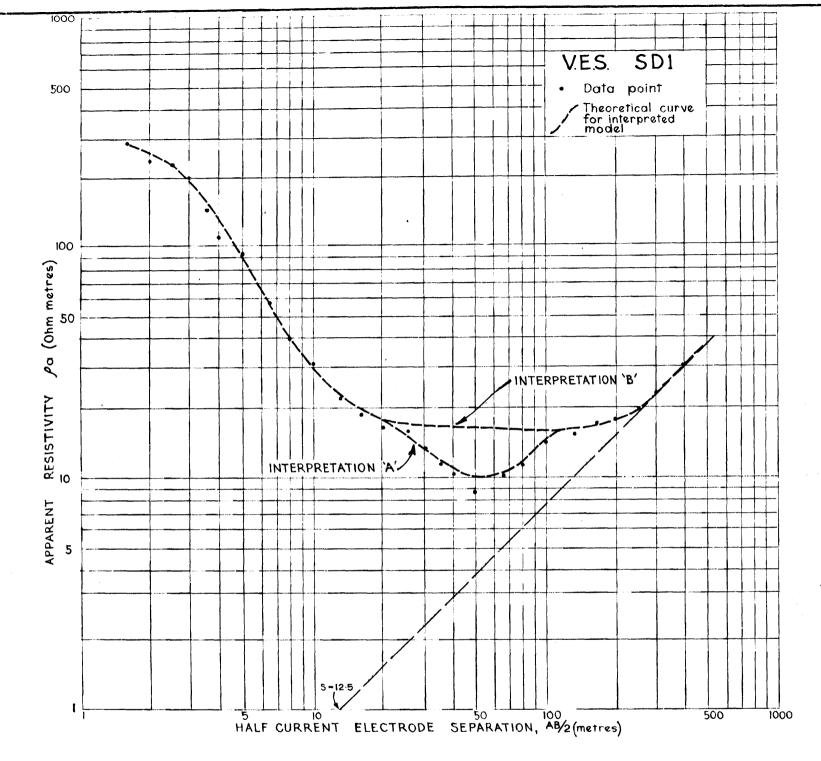










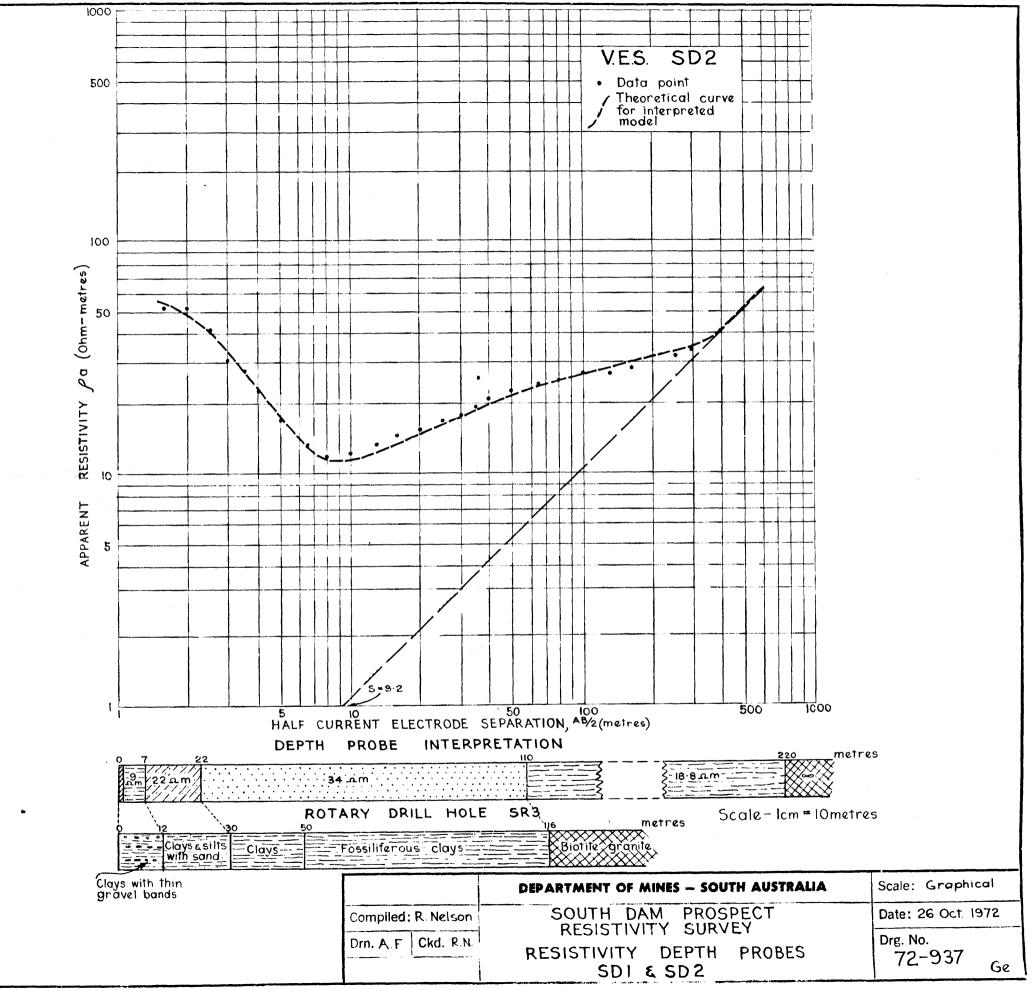


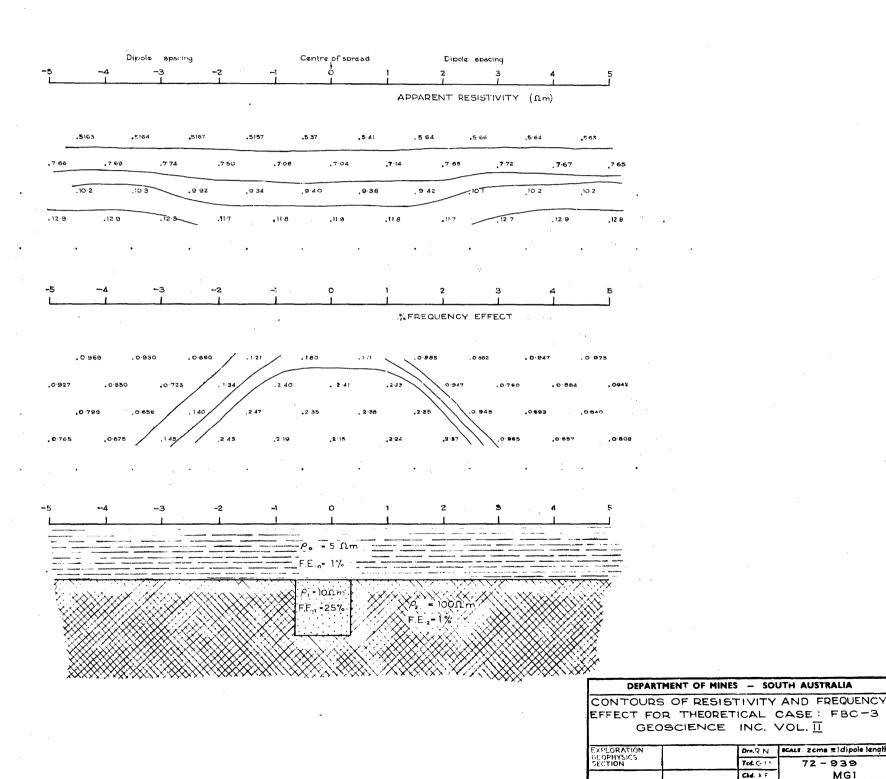
INTERPRETATION 'A'

_						
	Layer	Resistivity (am)	Thickness(m)			
	1	330	1.7			
	2	33	4.3			
1	3	14.6	16			
	4	1.6	7			
	5	98	13			
	6	3.2	21.6			
	7	∞	<u> </u>			
	,					

INTERPRETATION 'B'

Layer	Resistivity(am)	Thickness(m)
330		1.7
2	33	4.3
3	16	200
_ 4	∞	





SCALE . 2 cms = | dipole length

72 - 939

DATE: 23 Oct. 1972

End.

MGI