Drill core and cuttings

The EDC’s drill core and petroleum-well cuttings (rock chips) are representative samples of Queensland’s known mineral deposits, coal and petroleum basin strata. They are made available to support exploration, mining and research. The samples provide insights into the state’s geological features and resource potential. The aim is to deliver a complete stratigraphic succession of all Queensland provinces and major geological formations.

GSQ’s stratigraphic and coal-drilling programs from 1950 to 1985 are the basis of the collection. There is core from earlier work, some dating back to the 1890s, and company material is continually added as a condition of exploration under various mining Acts and regulations.

Geophysical data

The EDC is the official repository for all seismic data submitted under legislation. It stores digital field and processed seismic survey data, support data and scanned and original sepia sections. All old seismic tapes have been transcribed to new media. Enquiries about these should be directed to the Seismic Data Officer. Paper seismic survey support data has recently been scanned and public seismic data will be made available through the QDEX Data online delivery system.

HyLogger™ data

HyLogger™ is a non-destructive spectroscopic scanning technology developed by CSIRO that offers a cost-effective means of capturing detailed mineralogical data along with a high-resolution digital image of the drill core in their original trays, thus digitising the whole core-logging process. The reflectance spectroscopic data, collected between visible–near infrared (VNIR; 400–1000 nm), shortwave infrared (SWIR; 1000–2500 nm) and thermal infrared (TIR; 6000–14 000 nm) wavelengths, extract new geological knowledge by identifying spectrally distinct features of different rock types, their mineralogy and alteration signatures.

As of February 2016 the EDC has scanned approximately 161 000 m of drill cores, including commercial scanning.
All core/cuttings submitted to the EDC must be accompanied by relevant sample submission forms, which are available from the EDC or website www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/mining/geoscience-data-information/core-rock-collections

**Inspection and sampling of core and cuttings**

The EDC holds 197 000 trays (approximately 500 000 m) of core plus petroleum well cuttings, representing samples from about 11 100 holes.

Stored core and cuttings can be inspected in the EDC’s purpose-built all weather courtyard with 24-hours notice required to lay out core. Sampling and slabbing facilities are available. Requests to view core and cuttings should be made in writing to the EDC manager. Visitors can request permission to take samples of core and cuttings for further analysis, subject to GSQ terms and conditions.

Acid, sample bags, tags and geopicks/hammers are supplied. Covered footwear is required in the courtyard area of the EDC.

**Exploration Data Centre fees**

Current rates and fees can be viewed on the Geoscience Services tab in the GSQ product and service catalogue at www.business.qld.gov.au/industry/mining/geoscience-data-information/products-services-catalogue

These rates apply to commercial clients, including students undertaking sponsored research. Reduced rates for unsponsored postgraduate students and class visits by undergraduates are at the manager’s discretion. The facility can be booked for sole use.

**Company exploration reports**

Digital copies of all open file exploration reports are available through the QDEX Reports System at www.business.qld.gov.au/business/support-tools-grants/services/mapping-data-imagery/data/mining-resources-data/qdex-reports

There are more than 34 000 hard-copy exploration reports in the EDC collection dating back to the 1950s that have been microfilmed and uploaded to QDEX Reports.

**Regional core repository**

The John Campbell Miles Drill Core Facility (MIDCF) is located in Mount Isa. To view the collection, please contact the Manager, MIDCF.

**Core submission**

Companies holding exploration permits and authorities to prospect are required by law to submit representative core and cuttings samples to the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy. Arrangements for the submission of samples derived from drilling should be made by contacting the nearest Regional Geologist or the EDC manager.