

MINERALOGICAL MAGAZINE, DECEMBER 1980, VOL. 43, PP. 1053-5

International Mineralogical Association: Commission on New Minerals and Mineral Names

ONE of the first tasks of the Commission was to attain uniformity in nomenclature so far as may be practicable. The Commission has made recommendations in respect of thirty-nine minerals for which two or more names were (or are) in common use; full agreement on the remaining twelve names discussed, or on a few not considered by the Commission, seems unlikely in the near future. Unfortunately, some editors, even of English-language journals, have not enforced the Commission's recommendations; in *Mineral. Mag.* only those names recommended by the Commission may be used:

†Analcime, not analcite
 †Anatase, not octahedrite
 †Arsenopyrite, not mispickel
 Azurite, not chessylite
 †Bornite, not erubescite
 Bromargyrite, not bromyrite
 Celestine, not celestite, coelestine, cölestin, or Zölestin
 Chlorargyrite, not cerargyrite (which is reserved for use as a group name)
 Devilline, not devillite or herregrundite
 Digenite, not neodigenite
 †Feldspar or Feldspath, not felspar, etc.
 Gibbsite, not hydrargillite
 Grossular, not grossularite (the latter is particularly objectionable, as grossularite is a rock name)
 †Hematite, not haematite, Hämatit, or oligiste
 †Hemimorphite, not calamine
 Iodargyrite, not iodyrite
 Magnesite, not giobertite
 Metavariscite, not clinovariscite
 Natron, not soda
 Nickeline, not niccolite or nickelite
 Nitratine, not soda nitre or soda niter
 Nontronite, not chloropal
 Orthoclase, not orthose (but orthose will still be used in France)
 Phosphosiderite, not metastrengite or clinostrengite
 Piemontite, not piedmontite
 Rhodochrosite, not dialogite

Rutherfordine, not rutherfordite (for the mineral of Marckwald, 1906; rutherfordite of Shepard, 1851, is an ill-defined rare-earth mineral)
 Siderite, not chalybite (for the siderite of Haidinger, FeCO₃; siderite (of Daubrée) is a current name for a class of meteorites)
 Spessartine, not spessartite (the latter is highly objectionable, since spessartite is a name for a rock containing no spessartine)
 Sphalerite, not blende or zinblend
 Sphero-cobaltite, not cobaltocalcite or sphero-cobaltite
 †Spodumene, not triphane
 Stilbite, not desmine
 Tenorite, not melaconite
 Tetrahedrite, not panabase or fahlerz (the last may be used as a group name)
 †Torbernite, not chalcolite or cuprouranite
 Uranite (group name; not uranmica or Uran-glimmer)
 Valentinite, not exitèle
 Wernerite to be the species, scapolite the group name

The following sets of names include a few that have not been considered by the Commission and others on which the Commission has not reached a firm decision; *in each case the first name listed will be used in Mineral. Mag.* Four of these sets were included in the report of the Anglo-American Committee on nomenclature (*Am. Mineral.* 1936, **21**, 191) and are distinguished by an asterisk*; the first name was recommended and adopted in *Mineral. Mag.*:

Allanite (orthite)
 Baryte (barite, barytine, barytite, Schwerspath)
 Ceylonite (pleonaste, Zeylanit)
 Chalcosine (chalcosite, chalcocite, Chalkosin)
 Cosmochlore (ureyite, kosmochlor)
 Hydrocyanite (chalcocyanite)
 *Idocrase (vesuvianite, vesuvian, Idokras)
 *Kyanite (cyanite, cianite, disthene)
 Pyrrhotine (pyrrhotite)
 Sahlite (salite)
 *Sphe (titanite [of Klaproth; titanite of Kirwan was rutile])

*Stibnite (stibine, antimonite)

Szjábelyite (ascharite)

Talmessite (belovite [of Nefedov], arsenate-belovite)

Either eggonite or kolbeckite may be used for $\text{ScPO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (the Commission's vote was not decisive); the name sterrettite should be abandoned.

Attention is also called to the correction (M.M. 43, 824): schmiederite, *not* schmeiderite.

The Anglo-American report was accepted by a poll of Mineral. Soc. America members (*Am. Mineral.* 1939, 24, 176), and hailed as a big step forward: 'A few of the approved names may seem unusual to some of our members, but the British Committee was most generous in yielding some of their preferred names. The compromise list is an example of the benefits to be derived from a mutual "give and take" policy. . . . uniformity in usage in great part seems assured, at least with the English-speaking people of the world.' It is a pity this hope has not been fulfilled, presumably because of frequent changes in the editorship of *Am. Mineral.* The Report made recommendations in respect of thirty-seven sets of names; the IMA Commission failed to agree on the four mentioned above, but endorsed nine, which are indicated by a dagger-† in the list of the Commission's recommendations. For the remaining twenty-four sets, the name recommended by the Report appears to have now become universally accepted, at least in English.

The reports of the subcommittees on Amphiboles and on the Pyrochlore family appear in *Mineral. Mag.* 42, 533-63 (1978) and *Am. Mineral.* 62, 403-10 (1977) respectively, and should be followed in naming minerals belonging to these groups. A guide to the correct use of prefixes, suffixes, and adjectival modifiers to mineral names has been approved by the Commission, and appears in *Am. Mineral.* 65, 223-4 (1980) and in *Can. Mineral.* 18, 261 (1980). The IMA-IU Cryst. Joint Committee's report on polytype notation (*Am. Mineral.* 62, 411-15 (1977)) will also be found useful.

Authors seeking to discredit a species should endeavour to obtain holotype material if it still exists, or at the very least topotype material, and should submit their evidence to the Commission. The Commission has approved the discrediting of the following species, in addition to those listed in *Mineral. Mag.* 38, 103 (1971):

Achrematite = mimetite + wulfenite (A.M. 62, 170, 1977)

Alaskaite = a mixture including pavonite, gustavite, tetrahedrite, and sphalerite (A.M. 58, 349, 1973)

Allcharite = goethite (Bull. 92, 99, 1969)

Allopladium = Stibiopalladinite (A.M. 63, 796, 1978)

Anauxite = kaolinite (A.M. 54, 206, 1969)

Arsenodialytite (Bull. 97, 520, 1974)

Ashtonite = strontian mordenite (M.M. 38, 383, 1971)

Astrolite = muscovite (A.M. 57, 993, 1971)

Basiliite = hausmannite + feitknechtite (A.M. 58, 562, 1973)

Bisbeeite = chrysocolla

Blanchardite = brochantite (A.M. 58, 562, 1973)

Brostenite = birnessite + todorokite (M.A. 74-3408)

Calciotantalite = microlite + tantalite, in part stannian (M.M. 38, 765, 1972)

Chile-löweite = humberstonite (M.A. 70-1634)

Chloroarsenian = allactite (A.M. 58, 562, 1973)

Chrominium = phoenicochroite (Bull. 95, 427, 1972)

Dehrnite = carbonatian fluorapatite (M.M. 42, 282, 1978)

Droogmansite = kasolite (Bull. 101, 561, 1978)

Eardleyite = takovite (A.M. 62, 458, 1977)

Forbesite = cobaltian annabergite + arsenolite (*Can. Mineral.* 14, 414)

Frigidite = tetrahedrite + Ni sulphides (M.M. 43, 99, 1979)

Glockerite = cryptocrystalline lepidocrocite (A.M. 62, 599, 1977)

Karpinskyite = leifite + a Zn-bearing clay (A.M. 57, 1006, 1972)

Khlopinitite = samarskite (A.M. 57, 329, 1972)

Khuniite = iranite (A.M. 61, 186, 1976)

Knipovichite = chromian alumohydrocalcite (A.M. 61, 341, 1976)

Kolskite = lizardite + sepiolite (A.M. 59, 212, 1974)

Kyanophyllite = paragonite + muscovite (A.M. 58, 807, 1973)

Lewistonite = carbonatian fluorapatite (M.M. 42, 282, 1978)

Lorettoite is an artificial product (A.M. 64, 1303, 1979)

Magnetostibian = jacobsite (A.M. 58, 562, 1973)

Mohsite = crichtonite (*Can. Mineral.* 17, 635, 1979)

Nenadkevite = mixture of uraninite, etc (A.M. 62, 1261, 1977; not submitted to the Commission)

Neotantalite = microlite (Bull. 95, 451, 1972)

Oryzite = epistilbite (A.M. 57, 592, 1972)

Pleonecrite = hedyphane (A.M. 58, 562, 1973)

Pleurasite = a mixture, mainly sarkinite (A.M. 58, 562, 1973)

Pyrrhoarsenite = berzeliite (A.M. 58, 562, 1973)

Retinostibian (Bull. 97, 520, 1974)

Rhodoarsenian = rhodonite (A.M. 58, 562, 1973)

Salmonsite = hureaulite + jahnsite (M.M. 42, 309, 1978)

Scheibeite (of Mücke) = phoenicochroite (Bull. 95, 427, 1972)

Schuchardtite = mixture of vermiculite-like and chlorite-like nickelian minerals (A.M. 64, 1334, 1979)

Sjögrufvite = caryinite (A.M. 58, 562, 1973)

Slavyanskite = tunisite (in press)

Sungulite = mixture of lizardite and sepiolite (A.M. 59, 212, 1974)

Svitalskite = celadonite (A.M. 63, 796, 1978)

Trudellite = natroalunite + chloraluminite (A.M. 57, 1006, 1972)

Zirconolite and Zirkelite (of Blake and Smith) = zirkelite (of Hussak and Prior (A.M. 60, 341, 1975)

The Commission's success may be measured by the falling number of new names published without their approval: in 1970, 15 new names were so published, only 1 of which was subsequently accepted by the Commission; in 1977, of 6 new

names published without prior approval, 1, an artificial product now found naturally, was accepted, 2 rejected, and an inconclusive vote was recorded on 3. The names rejected for the period 1969–77 are:

Alazanite	Dayingite	Mangantapiolite	Plumboalophane
Aldzhanite	Dosulite	Miomirite	Scheibeite†
Altmarkite	Fenghuangite	Miropolskite	Silicomonazite
Anarakite	Ferrohalotrichite	Mrazekite	Taiyite
Argentocuproaurite	Feuermineral	Murgocite	Tanzanite
Aurocuprite	Guanglinitite	Ortho-armalcolite	Thorgadolinite
Beta-brocenite	Hexastibiopalladite	Osumilite- (K,Mg)	Tozalite
Brocenite	Hydrocalcite*	Para-armalcolite	Udokanite
Carnevallite	Hydrorinkite	Para-boleite	Velikite
Chengbolite	Isoplatinocopper	Parapectolite	Wolframixiolite
Chromephlogopite	Isowolframite	Parastrengite	Yanzhongite
Chromium	Khuniite	Paravariscite	Yenshanite
Craigite	Macrokaolinite	Pharaonite	
Cyclowollastonite	Maigruen	Plumangite	

* Of Marschner; not the hydrocalcite of Kosmann, 1892.

† Of Mücke; not the scheibeite of von Linstow, 1912.

ADDENDUM

A useful list of discredited and of redefined clay silicates appears in *Clay Science* [Japan], **5**, 209–20, 1979.