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Kumdykolite, an orthorhombic polymorph of albite, from the Kokchetav ultrahigh-pressure massif, Kazakhstan

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Kumdykolite, an orthorhombic polymorph of albite, was first identified by analytical electron microscopy in association with diopside, quartz/cristobalite, phengite/phlogopite, an un-identified aluminosilicate, calcic amphibole, dolomite, calcite, or talc as micron-scale mineral inclusions in omphacite of eclogite from the Kumdy Kol, Kokchetav ultrahigh-pressure massif, northern Kazakhstan. The unit cell parameters of kumdykolite were determined to be a = 8.24(1) Å, b = 8.65(1) Å, and c = 4.84(1) Å (V = 346.17 Å3, Z = 2).

Its space group could be either P2nn or Pmnn. Analogous to svyatoslavite, which is an orthorhombic metastable polymorph of anorthite, kumdykolite is also presumed to be a metastable phase formed at high temperatures with rapid cooling and in the absence of water. A tentative scenario is further postulated that the formation of kumdykolite may result from infiltrated melt-omphacite interaction when the Kokchetav massif exhumed from mantle depths to the base of the crust.