

ABOUT MACKINAWITE INCLUSIONS IN GROSSULAR CRYSTALS AT THE TALNAKH (MT. OTDEL'NAYA) ACHTARANDITE LOCALITY

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The discovery of mackinawite in paragenesis with magnesio-chromite within inclusions in grossular garnet at the Otdel'naya mountain locality of achtarandite in the Talnakh region is described. An occurrence of the mackinawite is an evidence of the low-temperature conditions of the achtarandite mineral association formation.

1 figure, 3 references.

Keywords: mackinawite, grossular, prehnite-pumpellyite facies, low-grade metamorphism, Otdel'naya mountain.

Otdel'naya mountain locality of achtarandite in the Talnakh region is analogous to the world-known Wiluy river one in Yakutia by its mineral composition. The main ore-forming minerals at both localities are grossular, vesuvianite and achtarandite formed as phenocrysts in the strongly altered rocks. The most widely spread garnet at the Mt. Otdel'naya locality is Cr-Ti-containing grossular and grossular which constitute central and edge parts of a crystal respectively (Alferova, 2007). The garnet contains multiple mineral and fluid inclusions, and therefore looks semi-translucent. Mineral inclusions are represented with relatively high-temperature magnesio-chromite, Al-containing magnesio-chromite,

vesuvianite, amesite, stilbite, chalcopyrite and mackinawite — the most low-temperature of all above-listed.

The discovery of mackinawite in paragenesis with magnesio-chromite within inclusions in grossular garnet at the Otdel'naya mountain locality of achtarandite in the Talnakh region is described. An occurrence of the mackinawite is an evidence of the low-temperature conditions of the achtarandite mineral association formation.

The mackinawite occurs as a xenomorphic ingrowth up to 10 μ in the central, dark-green part of a garnet in contact with magnesio-chromite and within its crystals (Fig. 1). Chemical composition of the mackinawite corresponds to the formula $\text{Fe}_{0.64}\text{Ni}_{0.36}\text{Co}_{0.01}\text{S}_{0.99}$. Both the mackinawite presence and its ingrowths position in the phase contact zone testify to the low-grade forming conditions responding to the prehnite-pumpellyite facia of a low-grade metamorphism (Spiridonov *et al.*, 2000). Experimental study showed that the mackinawite stability field temperature limits are 50°C to 130–240°C (Takeno *et al.*, 1970). Thus, the mineral paragenesis with mackinawite once again reveals the low-temperature and multi-stage conditions of its formation at Mt. Otdel'naya achtarandite locality.

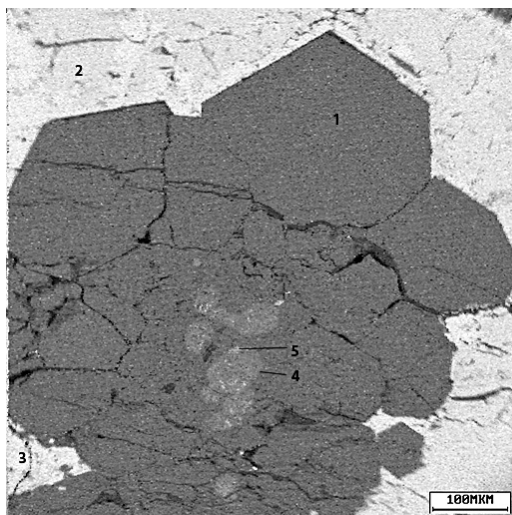


Figure 1. Cr-Ti-containing grossular aggregate (1) within pyrrhotite-pentlandite matrix (2) having chalcopyrite segregations (3), with alumo-magnesio-chromite inclusions (4) with mackinawite ingrowth (5). Mt. Otdel'naya, Talnakh.

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