



EESTI GEOLOOGIA SELTS *ESTONIAN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY*

To the Geological Society of Latvia

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The role and evaluation of drill cores and geological collection materials in the Baltics and in Latvia in particular

The Geological Society of Estonia joins the Institute of Geology at Tallinn University of Technology (7 April 2014, No. 2-7/151) in support of Latvian geologists, who wish to organize the storage and usage of drill cores and geological collections the best possible way. All preserved drill cores contain geological information about rocks and sediments that are being reused for the execution of tasks related to geological mapping, environmental geology, hydrogeology and exploration of mineral resources.

We would like to draw your attention to the following aspects:

- 1) the use of stored drill cores in the execution of new geological tasks lowers the cost of devised geological works (geological mapping, hydrogeology, exploration of mineral resources) and increases the trustworthiness of the investigation of bedrock geology;
- 2) databases do not replace drill cores, because the data from earlier investigations reflect the level of knowledge during the investigations, and in case of every particular investigation, are only related to their purposes. As knowledge and purposes change, the drill core sections under investigation need to be additionally described and/or sampled;
- 3) the effects of the decrease of drilling works and depth of investigation on the methodology of geological works can only be compensated with the appreciation of stored drill cores;
- 4) besides the institutions working with applied geological tasks, drill cores are also needed by geoscientists and university students. By taking into consideration drill cores, geoscientists examine the goals of national and international cooperation projects, and university students need to acquire practical work and research experiences;
- 5) the storage of drill cores and rock collections, and the development of databases related to them, require the competence of geologists. Both for Estonian and Latvian geologists, inspiration is taken from the practice of Nordic countries.

Based on their experiences gained over the last few decades, Estonian geologists confirm that stored drill cores and rock collections are also invaluable in the execution of today's national and international geological works.

Anne Põldvere

Chairman of the board
NPO Geological Society of Estonia