NGU Report 96.148

Mineral Resources of the Kola-Finnmark region, 1993-1996. Summary of activities.



# **REPORT**

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# NGU Project 6421.02:

# MINERAL RESOURCES OF THE KOLA-FINNMARK REGION, 1993-1996. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES.

Victor A. Melezhik & Morten Often, Norges geologiske undersøkelse.

#### Introduction

The Project was designed to serve the main goal: promotion of Russian-Norwegian mining and mineral industrial activity in the north region (Kola Peninsular, East Finnmark). The development of a data base on available mineral deposits in the Kola region has been a major task. The work with the computerised data base has involved the following: (i) systematise the data available; (ii) structure the data in a form acceptable in western countries; (iii) translation to English; (iiii) make the data freely available.

The Project structure has been made in accordance with the main goals and tasks and it is presented in Fig. 1.

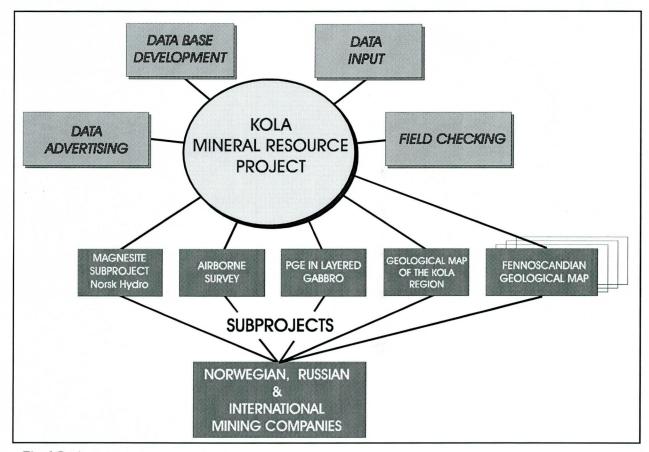


Fig. 1 Project structure.

## Results

As we have been reporting regularly on the Project development we will present here only the main results which have been accomplished during the course of the Project.

#### Data base

Around 135 examples of ore, industrial mineral and dimensional stone deposits have been brought to our present-day knowledge (Table 1). 19 of these deposits are at present being exploited and 84 others have been explored. The main commodities in the Murmansk district are Ni, Co, Fe, apatite, nepheline, Zr, REE, Nb, Ta, baddeleyite, vermiculite, phlogopite, ceramic raw material, clay and flux materials. The Murmansk region is considered to have a high exploration potential for PGE-bearing layered gabbro-norite intrusions (Panskie and Fedorovy Tundry), copper and gold (Late Archaean Kolmozero-Voronja Belt) and diamonds (Tersky coast, White Sea on-shore).

Collection and systematising of available data on mineral resources of the Murmansk region in an easily accessible, computerised form and in English language has been carried out for the most important deposits. The database includes: (1) geographic co-ordinates, (2) general geological & stratigraphical position, (3) radiometric age, (4) short morphological & genetic description, (5) mineralogy of the ore & host rocks, (6) list of exploration works, (7) reserves, (8) average grade, (9) total production. At present data on 80 deposits are available at the Geological Survey of Norway (Table 1), and a number of these have been checked in the field.

This type of data was in Russia formerely regarded as strategic and of importance for national security. It has been a long process for NGU to be able to present this data in an open database.

Although we have been facing a number of obstacles with the Russian co-ordinate system (e.g. secrecy and inaccuracy) the majority of deposits are supplied now with accurate co-ordinates transformed to the UTM system.

Table 1. List of deposits available in the Murmansk district and registered in the data base at the Geological Survey of Norway.

| NR. | Deposit             | Raw material                           | Confirmed                       | Database   |  |  |
|-----|---------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------|--|--|
| 1   | Rovgora             | Amasonite                              |                                 |            |  |  |
| 2   | Ploskaya            | Amasonite, Y                           |                                 |            |  |  |
| 3   | Korabl Ridge        | Ametyste                               |                                 |            |  |  |
| 4   | Apatity Cirque      | Apatite                                | Apatite                         |            |  |  |
| 5   | Eveslogchorr        | Apatite                                |                                 | Registered |  |  |
| 6   | Koashva             | Apatite                                |                                 | Registered |  |  |
| 7   | Kuel'por            | Apatite                                |                                 | Registered |  |  |
| 8   | Kukisvumchorr       | Apatite                                |                                 | Registered |  |  |
| 9   | N'yorpakhk          | Apatite                                |                                 | Registered |  |  |
| 10  | Oleny Ruchey        | Apatite                                |                                 | Registered |  |  |
| 11  | Partamehorr         | Apatite                                |                                 | Registered |  |  |
| 12  | Rasvumchorr Plateau | Apatite                                |                                 | Registered |  |  |
| 13  | Yukspor             | Apatite                                |                                 | Registered |  |  |
| 14  | Tukhtavara          | Apatite, Baddeleyite                   |                                 | Registered |  |  |
| 15  | Nyal'm-1            | Au                                     | Yes                             | Registered |  |  |
| 16  | Nyal'm-2            | Au                                     | Yes                             | Registered |  |  |
| 17  | Oleninskoe          | Au                                     | Yes                             | Registered |  |  |
| 18  | Sallanlatva         | Barytt, (Apatitt), Nb                  |                                 | Registered |  |  |
| 19  | Bol'shoi Lapot      | Be, Talc                               |                                 |            |  |  |
| 20  | Devitsja            | Chromite                               | Yes                             |            |  |  |
| 21  | Dunite core         | Chromite                               | Yes                             |            |  |  |
| 22  | Loipeshnyun         | Chromite                               | Chromite Yes                    |            |  |  |
| 23  | Bolshaya Varaka     | Chromite, PGE                          | Chromite, PGE                   |            |  |  |
| 24  | Tikozero            | Chromite, PGE                          | Chromite, PGE                   |            |  |  |
| 25  | Vasin-Myl'k         | Cs, (Li, Ta, Be)                       | Cs, (Li, Ta, Be) Yes            |            |  |  |
| 26  | Nittis              | Cu, Ni, PGE                            | Yes                             |            |  |  |
| 27  | Ermakovskoe-20      | Diamond                                |                                 |            |  |  |
| 28  | Ermakovskoe-7       | Diamond                                | Yes                             |            |  |  |
| 29  | Luppeyärvi          | Dimensional stone                      |                                 |            |  |  |
| 30  | Sukhoy              | Dimensional stone                      |                                 |            |  |  |
| 31  | Val'seyavr          | Dimensional stone                      |                                 |            |  |  |
| 32  | Voronje             | Dimensional stone                      |                                 |            |  |  |
| 33  | Sormozero           | Dimensional stone, black granodiorite  |                                 |            |  |  |
| 34  | Od'yavr             | Dimensional stone, blue granite        | Yes                             |            |  |  |
| 35  | Shongui             | Dimensional stone, diorite             |                                 |            |  |  |
| 36  | Luostari            | Dimensional stone, dolomite            | Yes                             |            |  |  |
| 37  | Pirtti-Yarvi        | Dimensional stone, dolomite            | Dimensional stone, dolomite Yes |            |  |  |
| 38  | Monchetundra        | Dimensional stone, gabbro              |                                 |            |  |  |
| 39  | Chornaya Salma      | Dimensional stone, gabbro-norite       |                                 |            |  |  |
| 40  | Jona (Kulos)        | Dimensional stone, gabbro-norite       |                                 |            |  |  |
| 41  | Kyula-Vaara         | Dimensional stone, gabbro-norite       | Yes                             |            |  |  |
| 42  | Rikolatva           | Dimensional stone, gabbro-norite       |                                 |            |  |  |
| 43  | Testchina Gora I    | Dimensional stone, gabbro-norite       |                                 | •          |  |  |
| 44  | Testchina Gora II   | Dimensional stone, gabbro-norite       |                                 |            |  |  |
| 45  | Pojakonda           | Dimensional stone, garnet amphibolitte | Yes                             |            |  |  |
|     |                     |  |                                 |            |  |  |

| 47       | Khibiny                        | Dimensional stone, khibinite, lovchorrite | Yes         |            |
|----------|--------------------------------|---|-------------|------------|
| 48       | Kusretsjensk                   | Dimensional stone, pink granite           |             | ·          |
| 49       | Vinga                          | Dimensional stone, pink granite           | Yes         |            |
| 50       | Kirikovan                      | Dimensional stone, pyroksenite            |             |            |
| 51       | Poriareka                      | Dimensional stone, pyroksenite            | Yes         |            |
| 52       | Tersky Bereg                   | Dimensional stone, slate/sandstone        |             |            |
| 53       | 15 years of October Revolution | Fe  |             | Registered |
| 54       | Aivar                          | Fe  |             | Registered |
| 55       | Anomal'ny                      | Fe  |             | Registered |
| 56       | Kirovogorskoe                  | Fe  |             | Registered |
| 57       | Komsomolskoe                   | Fe  |             | Registered |
| 58       | Kurkenpakhk                    | Fe  |             | Registered |
| 59       | Olenegorskoe                   | Fe  |             | Registered |
| 60       | Pecheguba (Pechegubskoe)       | Fe  |             | Registered |
| 61       | Pinkeljavr                     | Fe  |             | Registered |
| 62       | Polovinnaya                    | Fe  |             | Registered |
| 63       | Prof. Bauman                   | Fe  |             | Registered |
| 64       | Sholtjavr                      | Fe  |             | Registered |
| 65       | Tukhtavara                     | Fe  |             | Registered |
| 66       | Volch'ya Tundra                | Fe  |             | Registered |
| 67       | Yuzhno-Kakhozerskoe            | Fe  |             | Registered |
| 68       | Zapadnoe                       | Fe  |             |            |
| 69       | Kovdor                         | Fe, Apatite, Zr                           | Yes         | Registered |
| 70       | Tikozero                       | Fe, Ti                                    |             | Registered |
| 71       | Kuru-Vaara                     | Feldspar                                  |             | Registered |
| 72       | Otradnoe                       | Feldspar                                  |             | Registered |
| 73       | Rikolatva                      | Feldspar                                  |             | Registered |
| 74       | Skalisty                       | Flaky graphite                            |             | Registered |
| 75       | Keivy                          | Kyanite                                   |             |            |
| 76       | Keivy                          | Kyanite                                   |             |            |
| 77       | Keivy                          | Kyanite                                   |             |            |
| 78       | Keivy                          | Kyanite                                   |             |            |
| 79       | Keivy                          | Kyanite                                   |             |            |
| 80       | Keivy                          | Kyanite                                   |             |            |
| 81       | Keivy                          | Kyanite                                   |             |            |
| 82       | Keivy                          | Kyanite                                   |             |            |
| 83       | Keivy                          | Kyanite                                   |             |            |
| 84       | Keivy, Maniuk                  | Kyanite                                   | Yes         |            |
| 85       | Keivy, Podmaniuk               | Kyanite                                   | Yes         |            |
| 86       | Keivy, Shuururta               | Kyanite                                   | Yes         | Registered |
| 87       | Keivy, Tyapshmanyuku           | Kyanite                                   | Yes         |            |
| 88       | Kolmozerskoe                   | Li, Rb, Be, Ta                            |             |            |
| 89       | Polmastundra                   | Li, Rb, Be, Ta                            | Yes         |            |
| 90       | Och-Myl'k                      | Li, Ta, Cs                                | Yes         |            |
| 91       | Kuolajärvi                     | Magnesite                                 |             |            |
| 92       | Pellapahk                      | Mo, Cu, Au, Ag                            | Yes         | Registered |
| 93       | Yauriyokskoe                   | Mo, fluor spar                            | Yes         | Registered |
| 94       | Neblagorskoe                   | Muscovite                                 |             | Registered |
| 95       | Rikolatva                      | Muscovite                                 |             | Registered |
|          |                                | Muscovite                                 | <del></del> | <u> </u>   |
| 96       | Yenskoe                        | Muscome                                   |             |            |
| 96<br>97 | Lastyavr                       | Ni  |             | Registered |

| 99  | Karikyavr          | Ni (Cu, PGE)           |                        | Registered |
|-----|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| 100 | Nyud               | Ni, Cu                 | Ni, Cu Yes             |            |
| 101 | Sopcha             | Ni, Cu                 | Ni, Cu Yes             |            |
| 102 | Allarechenskoe     | Ni, Cu, Co             | Ni, Cu, Co Yes         |            |
| 103 | Bystrinskoe        | Ni, Cu, Co             |                        | Registered |
| 104 | Kamikivi           | Ni, Cu, Co             | Yes                    | Registered |
| 105 | Kaula              | Ni, Cu, Co             | Yes                    |            |
| 106 | Kotsel'vaara       | Ni, Cu, Co             | Yes                    | Registered |
| 107 | Semiletka          | Ni, Cu, Co             |                        | Registered |
| 108 | Severnye Onki      | Ni, Cu, Co             |                        | Registered |
| 109 | Sputnik            | Ni, Cu, Co             |                        | Registered |
| 110 | Tundrovoe Verkhnee | Ni, Cu, Co             | -                      | Registered |
| 111 | Vostok             | Ni, Cu, Co             |                        |            |
| 112 | Zapolyarnoe        | Ni, Cu, Co             | Yes                    | Registered |
| 113 | Zhdanovskoe        | Ni, Cu, Co             | Yes                    |            |
| 114 | Generalskaya       | Ni, Cu, PGE            |                        |            |
| 115 | Fedorovy Tundry    | Ni, PGE                |                        | Registered |
| 116 | Pachkvaraka        | Ni, PGE                | Ni, PGE                |            |
| 117 | Panskie Tundry     | Ni, PGE                | **                     | Registered |
| 118 | Sr. Ichtegipachk   | Ni, PGE                |                        | Registered |
| 119 | Khabozerskoe       | Olivin                 |                        | Registered |
| 120 | Tikozero           | PGE                    |                        | Registered |
| 121 | Kovdor             | Phlogopite             | Phlogopite Yes         |            |
| 122 | Petyain-Vara       | Phlogopite             |                        | Registered |
| 123 | Keivy, Nyussa      | Scheelite              | Yes                    |            |
| 124 | Lovozerskoe        | Ta, Nb                 |                        |            |
| 125 | Neskevara          | Ta, Nb, (Zr, Apatitt)  |                        | Registered |
| 126 | Pados              | Talc, magnesite        |                        |            |
| 127 | Gremyakha-Vyrmes   | Ti, Apatite            |                        | Registered |
| 128 | Kovdor             | Ti, Apatite, REE, Zr   | Yes                    | Registered |
| 129 | Zapadny            | Ti, REE                | <del>-</del>           |            |
| 130 | Kovdor             | Vermiculite            |                        |            |
| 131 | «Apatite» Mine     | Waist                  |                        | Registered |
| 132 | Kovdor Mine        | Waist                  |                        | Registered |
| 133 | Sallanlatva        | Yellow ochre, Limonite | Yellow ochre, Limonite |            |
| 134 | Chinglusuai        | Zr, Ta, Nb             |                        |            |
| 135 | Sakharyok          | Zr, Y                  | Zr, Y Yes              |            |

# Field work (checking the reliability of data received)

38 deposits have been inspected (Table 1). A sample collection has been obtained from these deposits and the most representative ore types have been analysed in order to provide an independent evaluation. Other samples have also been obtained from various sources, for example we have samples from three main diamond provinces in Russia, e.g. from Jakutsk (Siberia), Archangelsk and Tersky coast (Kola).

#### **Commodity reports**

A report, in English, on apatite-bearing alkaline, alkaline-ultramafic and carbonatite intrusions, and 27 related mineral deposits has been produced. This includes the following data: (1) 1:25000 geological maps for each intrusion, (2) 1:10000-1:1000 geological maps for each deposit, (3) geological cross-sections of each deposit on a scale of 1:2000-1:5000 based on drilling material, (4) explanatory notes (reserves, average grades, composition of concentrates etc.). This report can be used both for an independent assessment of deposits in operation and for planning of new prospects in the Kola region. The report is a result of cooperative work between the Geological Survey of Norway and three Russian organisations, namely the Murmansk Geological Committee, the Murmansk Geological Expedition, and the Central Kola Geological Expedition.

#### Promotion of foreign investment on Kola

The computerised data base on Kola mineral resources and the readily available assistance from the Geological Survey of Norway have been widely advertised at a number of international prospecting and exploration business meetings, e.g. in Toronto (1995, 1996) and London (1995). Various brochures have been printed and world-wide distributed offering our data base and Russian oriented services.

#### Laboratory work

In order to involve some of the mineral resources available in the Kola region as a possible raw material for Norwegian mining industry, a number of tests have been made at the Geological Survey of Norway, e.g. nepheline concentrate from Khibiny Mine, pure quartz from the Perchatka deposit. A special attempt has been made in order to confirm a reported french diamond find in the Pasvik river in 1882. The original samples with the diamond crystals have now been located at the Mineralogical Museum in Paris and one diamond has been tested. The test confirmed the reliability of the earlier made identifications.

#### International and domestic assistance

Activity with main orientation towards promotion of Norwegian-Russian or International-Russian industrial cooperation and development is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Companies served by the Kola Mineral Resource Project and some examples of practical use of the data available at the Geological Survey of Norway.

| NOTEBY                 | Bedrock geological map in the Pechenga Fjord, 'Harbour Project', planning and       |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
|                        | construction of a harbour in the Pechenga Fjord.                                    |  |  |  |  |
| ELKEM                  | Geological and geochemical data on the Bol'shaya Varaka chromite deposits,          |  |  |  |  |
|                        | consulting work and introduction to Russian contacts.                               |  |  |  |  |
| Falconbridge           | Vast geological information on the Pasvik-Pechenga area, consulting and field work, |  |  |  |  |
|                        | joint prospecting for Ni in Pasvik, introduction to Russian contacts, providing     |  |  |  |  |
|                        | geological excursion to the Russian Ni mining areas.                                |  |  |  |  |
| Kenor A/S              | Russian geological information in relation to a gold occurrence found in Pasvik,    |  |  |  |  |
|                        | ground geophysical work, drilling program, prospecting and exploration for Au in    |  |  |  |  |
|                        | Pasvik.   |  |  |  |  |
| Norsk Hydro            | Assessment of magnesite potential in the Fennoscandian Shield, geological data on   |  |  |  |  |
|                        | apatite-bearing carbonatite in the Kola region, field trip to Karelia.              |  |  |  |  |
| Varanger Steinindustri | Inspection of a blue granite deposit, introduction to Russian contacts.             |  |  |  |  |
| Outokumpu Oy           | Airborne geophysical maps over the Pechenga-Pasvik area.                            |  |  |  |  |
| Ashton Mining          | Airborne geophysical maps over the Pechenga-Pasvik area                             |  |  |  |  |
| Monopros               | Airborne geophysical maps over the Pechenga-Pasvik area.                            |  |  |  |  |
| Boliden                | Geological, geochemical information and sample collection from the Kolmozero-       |  |  |  |  |
|                        | Voronja area for planning of prospecting for Au, Cu and Mo.                         |  |  |  |  |

#### **Development of business contacts**

Establishment of contacts with Russian authorities, industry and research institutions built up over three years is considered a very valuable knowledge of the Kola Project, which has been extensively utilized by Norwegian and international mineral industry (Table 2). The most important business contacts and their inter-relationships are shown in Figs. 2-4.

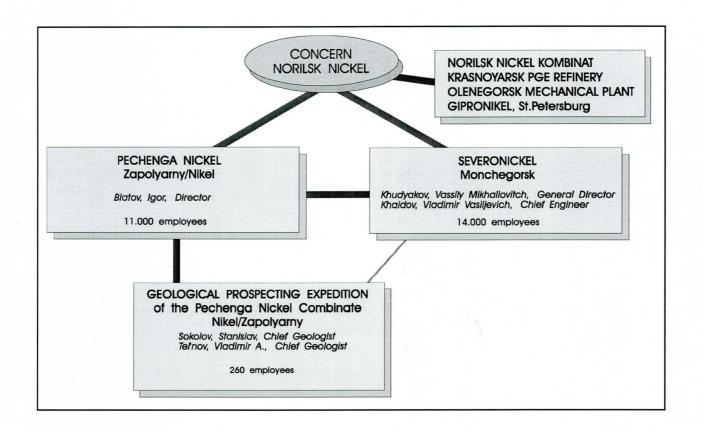


Fig. 2. The Project contacts with institutions from the Russian nickel industry.

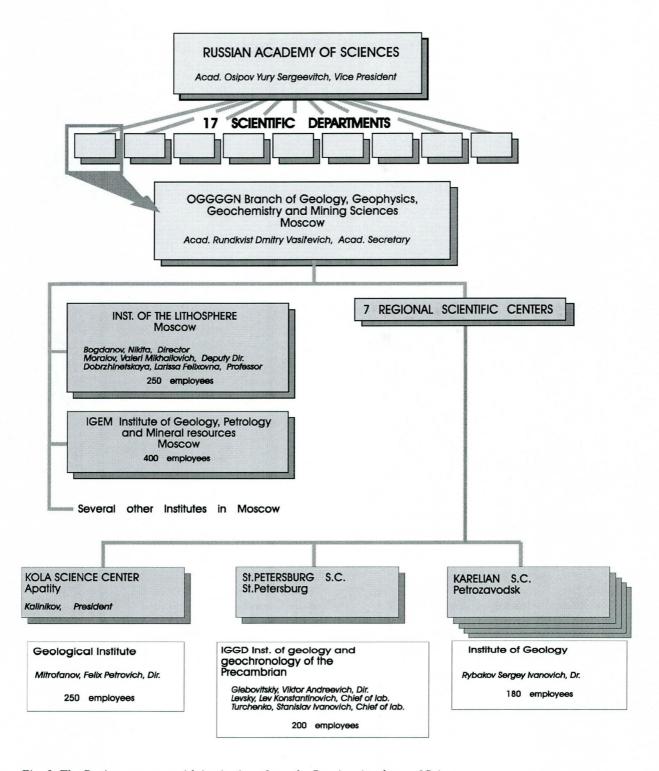


Fig. 3. The Project contacts with institutions from the Russian Academy of Sciences.

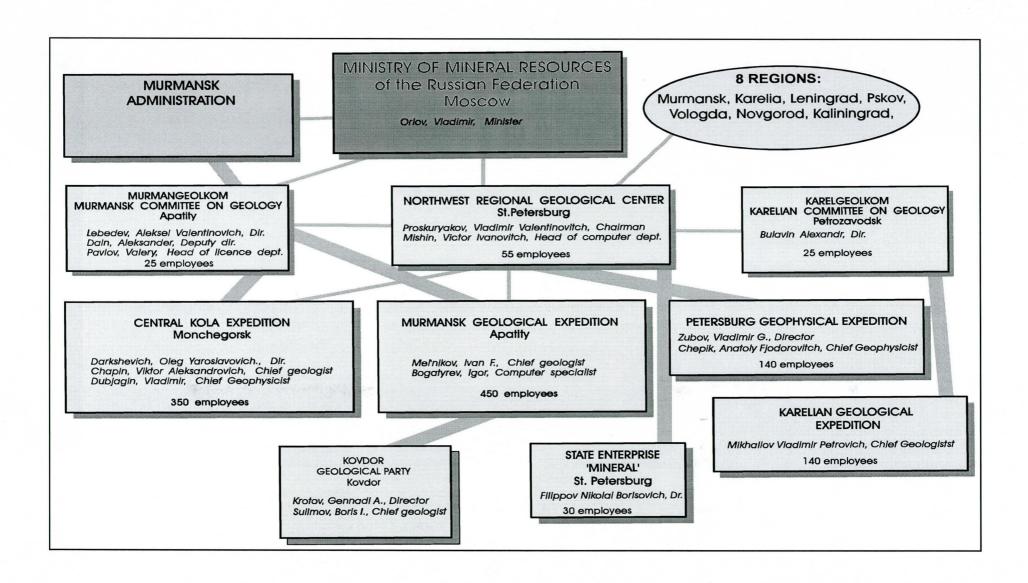


Fig. 4. Project contacts with institutions from the Ministry for Natural Resources of the Russian Federation.

## International spin-off projects

Activity within the Kola Project has created many fruitful international contacts which have resulted in development of independent projects shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Spin-off projects developed within the Kola Mineral Resource Project.

|   | Project title   | Leading institution | Partner                    | Duration     | Funding organisation               | Budget              |
|---|---|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Hydrosphere and atmosphere system evolution in Precambrian.   | NGU*                | SURRC                      | Long<br>term | NERSC, CSU                         | 5.000 £ per<br>year |
| 2 | World-wide 2 billion-<br>year-old isotopically<br>heavy carbonate carbon:<br>evolutionary significance<br>and driving forces. | NGU                 | SURRC,<br>GIN, IGGD,<br>IG | 2 years      | INTAS-RFBR,<br>Brussels-<br>Moscow | 54,000 ECU          |
| 3 | Platinum group element<br>mineralisation in Russian<br>Karelia  | UW.                 | NGU, IG                    | 3 years      | UW, NGU                            | 5,000 £             |
| 4 | Shungite: chemistry, microtexture, origin.  | NGU                 | DTU, IG                    | 3 years      | DTU, NGU                           | 50,000 NOK          |
| 5 | Platinum group element<br>mineralisation in the<br>Pechenga Ore Field.  | NGU                 | UQ, PNC                    | 3 years      | NGU, UQ                            | 90,000 NOK          |

<sup>\*</sup>NGU - Geological Survey of Norway

NERSC - Natural Environment Research Council, Scotland

PNC - Pechenga Nickel Combinate

SURRC - Scottish Universities Research and Reactor Centre

UQ - Sciences de la Terre, Université du Québec à Chicoutimi, Canada

UW - Department of Earth Sciences, University of Wales, UK

CSU - Consortium of Scottish Universities, Scotland

DTU - Danish Technical University, Copenhagen, Denmark

GIN - Geological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia

IG - Institute of Geology, Russian Academy of Sciences, Petrozavodsk, Karelia, Russia

IGGD - Institute of Precambrian Geology and Geochronology, Russian Academy of Sciences, St.-Petersburg, Russia

#### Reports, articles, maps, guidebooks, brochures and oral presentations (abstracts)

The Kola Mineral Resource Project have resulted in a number of publications listed here below. In addition to these a number of unpublished oral presentations have been deliverd at various meetings. The reports are all open file unless otherwise stated.

- Boyd, R., Niskavaara, H., Kontas, E., Chekushin, V., Pavlov, V. & Often, M. 1996: Anthropogenic noble-metal enrichment of topsoil in the Monchegorsk area, Kola Peninsula. *Abstract*.
- Chepik, A.F. 1995: Report on the results of ground geophysical surveys for verifying airborne local magnetic anomalies in Norway (South Pasvik area). *NGU Report 95.035*, 41pp.
- Ebbesen, T.W., Hiura, H., Hedenquist, J.W., de Ronde, C.E.J., Andersen, A., Often, M. & Melezhic, V.A. 1995: Origins of Fullerenes in Rocks. *Technical comment, Science*, 268, 1634-1635.
- Ihlen, P.M., Often, M. & Marker, M. 1993: The geology of the Late Archean sequence at Khizovaara, Russian Karelia, and associated metasomatites: Implications for the interpretation of the Raitevarre Cu-Au deposit in the Karasjok Greenstone Belt, North Norway. Abstract. 1st International Barents Symposium, 21-24 October 1993, Kirkenes, Norway. Nor. geol. unders.
- Ihlen, P.M., Often, M. & Marker, M. 1995: Senarkeiske bergarter i Khisovaara, Russisk Karelen, og assosierte metasomatitter. Presentation at Norsk Geologisk Forenings Wintermeeting, Trondheim 6.-8.01.1995. Abstract, Geonytt 22/1, p.37.
- Juve, G., Størseth, L.R., Vetrin, V.R. & Nilsson, L.P. 1995: Mineral deposits of the International map sheet Kirkenes 1:250.000. Presentation at Norsk Geologisk Forenings Vintermøte, Trondheim 6.-8.01.1995. Abstract, Geonytt 22/1, p.39.
- Juve, G., Størseth, L.R., Vetrin, V.R. & Nilsson, L.P. 1993: Mineral deposits of International mapsheet Kirkenes 1:250.000. Abstract. Barents Symposium, Kirkenes oct. 1993.
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#### **Conclusions**

The Project has resulted in a clearer understanding of the mineral potential of the region and as such forms an important basis for all future work on the mineral deposits. In a number of cases sufficient data is available to allow Norwegian and other western mining companies to have a better basis for entering into joint-venture agreements for the development and exploitation of such deposits. The results of work done in this project, and in part in a related NGU project (Ecogeochemistry of the North Area), provides a realistic basis for mining

companies to formulate strategies for mineral exploration studies in the region. There is naturally much work to be done to expand on the information regarding mineral resources of this region and it is hoped that this can be achieved via a follow-up project to this initial Pilot Project.