

Australian Standard[®]

**SYMBOLS FOR GRAPHICAL
REPRESENTATION OF COAL
SEAMS AND ASSOCIATED
STRATA**

This Australian standard was prepared by Subcommittee MN/1/5, Coal Mining and Geology under the supervision of Committee MN/1, Coal and Coke. It was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 28 October 1986 and published on 5 December 1986.

The following interests are represented on Committee MN/1:

Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy
Australian Coal Association
Australian Coal Industry Research Laboratories Ltd
Australian Institute of Energy
Bureau of Steel Manufacturers of Australia
Coal Preparation Societies of New South Wales and Queensland
Confederation of Australian Industry
CSIRO, Division of Fossil Fuels
Department of Mineral Resources, N.S.W.
Department of Mines, Qld
Department of National Development
Electricity Supply Association of Australia
Institution of Engineers, Australia
Joint Coal Board
Queensland Coal Board
Royal Australian Chemical Institute
Standing Committee on Coalfield Geology, N.S.W.
State Chemical Laboratory, Vic.
Universities

Review of Australian Standards. *To keep abreast of progress in industry, Australian Standards are subject to periodic review and are kept up to date by the issue of amendments or new editions as necessary. It is important therefore that Standards users ensure that they are in possession of the latest edition, and any amendments thereto.*

Full details of all Australian Standards and related publications will be found in the Standards Australia Catalogue of Publications; this information is supplemented each month by the magazine 'The Australian Standard', which subscribing members receive, and which gives details of new publications, new editions and amendments, and of withdrawn Standards.

Suggestions for improvements to Australian Standards, addressed to the head office of Standards Australia, are welcomed. Notification of any inaccuracy or ambiguity found in an Australian Standard should be made without delay in order that the matter may be investigated and appropriate action taken.

This standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 83176 and DR 85035.

Australian Standard[®]

**SYMBOLS FOR GRAPHICAL
REPRESENTATION OF COAL
SEAMS AND ASSOCIATED
STRATA**

First published (as AS K183)	1970
AS 2916 first published	1986
Incorporating:	
Amdt 1 — 1987	
Reconfirmed	1995

PUBLISHED BY STANDARDS AUSTRALIA
(STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA)
1 THE CRESCENT, HOMEBUSH, NSW 2140

ISBN 0 7262 4445 7

PREFACE

This edition of this standard was prepared by the Association's Subcommittee on Coal Mining and Geology under the supervision of the Committee on Coal and Coke and the direction of the Minerals Standards Board to supersede AS K183 — 1970, Symbols for the Graphical Representation of Coal Seams.

Graphical representation of coal seams and associated strata permits a rapid appraisal of coal seams and geological sections without reference to lengthy written descriptions. The graphic sections are invaluable for correlation between borehole logs or outcrop sections.

Description of coal seam plies and subsections in terms of their overall megascopic appearance is well established. The macroscopic appearance of many coals, particularly higher rank materials, is generally best described by terms based on the relative abundance of dull and bright lithotypes. Other coals, however, including many lower rank materials, are often more satisfactorily described by terms based on colour and texture. Definitions of higher rank and lower rank coals can be found in AS 2096.

Two systems of symbolic representation for coal lithotypes are given in this standard; one is based on shading (preferred) and the other on close-spaced diagonal lines (alternative).

Although the same symbol is shown for 'coal, undifferentiated' and 'coal, bright', the two are never used together on the same representation. An alternative symbol for 'coal, undifferentiated' is provided, for use when confusion is likely to arise.

A series of symbols is provided, as an appendix to this standard, to represent the non-coal rock types and mixtures of non-coal rock types commonly associated with coal seams.

Symbols for the different classes of material have been assigned an abbreviation. These abbreviations may be used, instead of the graphic symbols, up to the stage where formal graphic presentation is required. No abbreviations have been assigned, however, to mixtures of two or more rock types.

The scope of this document is limited in the interests of simplicity. If further information needs to be conveyed, it is recommended that this should be done by written description.

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
1 SCOPE	3
2 SYMBOLS TO ILLUSTRATE ABUNDANCE OF DULL AND BRIGHT LITHOTYPES	4
3 SYMBOLS TO ILLUSTRATE VARIATIONS IN COLOUR AND TEXTURE	5
4 SYMBOLS TO ILLUSTRATE OTHER FEATURES OF COAL SEAMS	6
APPENDICES	
A SUGGESTED SYMBOLS FOR NON-COAL ROCKS AND INTER STRATIFIED ROCKS	7
B PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF AIR-DRY LOWER RANK COAL LITHOTYPES	11

© Copyright — STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Users of Standards are reminded that copyright subsists in all Standards Australia publications and software. Except where the Copyright Act allows and except where provided for below no publications or software produced by Standards Australia may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system in any form or transmitted by any means without prior permission in writing from Standards Australia. Permission may be conditional on an appropriate royalty payment. Requests for permission and information on commercial software royalties should be directed to the head office of Standards Australia.

Standards Australia will permit up to 10 percent of the technical content pages of a Standard to be copied for use exclusively in-house by purchasers of the Standard without payment of a royalty or advice to Standards Australia.

Standards Australia will also permit the inclusion of its copyright material in computer software programs for no royalty payment provided such programs are used exclusively in-house by the creators of the programs.

Care should be taken to ensure that material used is from the current edition of the Standard and that it is updated whenever the Standard is amended or revised. The number and date of the Standard should therefore be clearly identified.

The use of material in print form or in computer software programs to be used commercially, with or without payment, or in commercial contracts is subject to the payment of a royalty. This policy may be varied by Standards Australia at any time.

STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard**for****SYMBOLS FOR GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF COAL SEAMS
AND ASSOCIATED STRATA**

1 SCOPE. This standard illustrates recommended symbols and abbreviations for lithotypes for use in the graphical representation of coal seams and associated strata.

NOTE: Although the standard shows the same symbol for 'coal, undifferentiated' and 'coal, bright', the two symbols are never used in the same representation.

Appendix A is a list of suggested symbols for the representation of non-coal rocks and interstratified rocks.

The physical characteristics of air-dry lower rank coal lithotypes are given in Appendix B.