Townendite Na₈ZrSi₆O₁₈

Crystal Data: Hexagonal. *Point Group*: $\bar{3}$ 2/m. As anhedral to subhedral microporous grains to 100 μ m.

Physical Properties: Cleavage: None. Fracture: Conchoidal. Hardness = 5-6 D(meas.) = \sim 2.89 D(calc.) = 2.95

Optical Properties: Transparent. *Color*: Colorless. *Streak*: White. *Luster*: Vitreous. *Optical Class*: Uniaxial (-). $\omega = 1.563(3)$ $\varepsilon = 1.555(3)$

Cell Data: Space Group: $R \ \bar{3} \ m$. a = 10.345(2) c = 13.103(2) Z = 3

(1)

X-ray Powder Pattern: n.d.

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	(1)
SiO_2	52.4
Na_2O	27.4
ZrO_2	11.9
Y_2O_3	2.12
SnO_2	0.91
FeO	1.35
MnO	1.70
CaO	1.34
UO_2	0.59
TiO_2	0.17
K_2O	0.04
Total	99.92

(1) Kvanefjeld prospect, Ilímaussaq alkaline complex, Southern Greenland; by electron microprobe, average of 6 analyses, O/OH adjusted for charge balance; corresponding to $Na_{6.08}Ca_{0.16}Mn_{0.17}Fe_{0.13}Zr_{0.67}Y_{0.13}Sn_{0.04}U_{0.02}Ti_{0.01}Si_6O_{16.35}(OH)_{1.65}$.

Mineral Group: Lovozerite group.

Occurrence: In lujavrite layers of nepheline syenite in a layered alkaline igneous intrusion. Possibly formed as an alteration product of steenstrupine-(Ce).

Association: Albite, microcline, arfvedsonite, monazite, vitusite-(Ce), aegirine, analcime, naujakasite, steenstrupine-(Ce).

Distribution: From the Kvanefjeld prospect, 8 km east of Narsak, Ilímaussaq alkaline complex, Southern Greenland.

Name: Honors Roger *Townend* (b. 1938), a consulting mineralogist, Perth, Western Australia, for his contributions to mineralogy, particularly related to the Ilímaussaq deposit, Southern Greenland.

Type Material: Museum Victoria, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia (M51188).

References: (1) Grey, I.E., C.M. Macrae, W.G. Mumme, and A. Pring (2010) Townendite, Na₈ZrSi₆O₁₈, a new uranium-bearing lovozerite group mineral from the Ilímaussaq alkaline complex, Southern Greenland. Amer. Mineral., 95, 646-650.