Leverettite Cu₃CoCl₂(OH)₆

Crystal Data: Hexagonal. *Point Group*: $\bar{3}$ 2/m. As steep rhombohedral crystals, displaying {101 1} and {0001}, to 1 mm, and as parallel stacked aggregates. *Twinning*: V-shaped twins by reflection on {101 2}.

Physical Properties: Cleavage: Perfect on $\{10\overline{1}\ 1\}$. Fracture: Conchoidal. Tenacity: Brittle. Hardness = ~ 3 D(meas.) = 3.64(2) D(calc.) = 3.709 Soluble in dilute HCl.

Optical Properties: Transparent. *Color*: Medium to deep green. *Streak*: Light green. *Luster*: Vitreous.

Optical Class: Uniaxial (-). ω and $\varepsilon > 1.8$ Pleochroism: O = bluish green, E = slightly yellowish green. Absorption: O > E.

Cell Data: Space Group: $R\overline{3}$ m. a = 6.8436(6) c = 14.0637(10) Z = 3

X-ray Powder Pattern: Torrecillas mine, Salar Grande, Iquique Province, Tarapacá Region, Chile. 2.766 (100), 5.469 (90), 2.269 (66), 1.711 (33), 1.822 (26), 1.383 (23), 2.905 (22)

Chemistry:	(1)	(2)
CuO	62.80	56.48
CoO	7.49	17.73
NiO	1.23	
MnO	2.72	
MgO	0.06	
Cl	15.40	16.78
H_2O	[12.57]	12.79
-Cl = O	3.47	3.79
Total	98.80	100.00

(1) Torrecillas mine, Salar Grande, Iquique Province, Tarapacá Region, Chile; average of 9 electron microprobe analyses, H_2O from stoichiometry and structure analysis; corresponding to $Cu_3(Co_{0.43}Cu_{0.40}Mn_{0.17}Ni_{0.07}Mg_{0.01})_{\Sigma=1.08}Cl_{1.87}O_{6.13}H_6$. (2) $Cu_3CoCl_2(OH)_6$.

Mineral Group: Paratacamite group.

Occurrence: As a secondary mineral in a weathered vein of copper and arsenic minerals.

Association: Akaganeite, anhydrite, chalcophanite, goethite, halite, manganite, pyrite, quartz, todorokite.

Distribution: At the Torrecillas mine, Salar Grande, Iquique Province, Tarapacá Region, Chile.

Name: Honors Peter Leverett (b. 1944), professor of Chemistry, University of Western Sydney, Australia, in recognition of his contributions to research and teaching in chemistry and chemical geology.

Type Material: Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, California, USA (64031-64034).

References: (1) Kampf, A.R., M.J. Sciberras, P.A. Williams, M. Dini, and A.A. Molina Donoso (2013) Leverettite from the Torrecillas mine, Iquique Province, Chile: the Co-analogue of herbertsmithite. Mineral. Mag., 77(7), 3047-3054. (2) (2016) Amer. Mineral., 101, 489 (abs. ref. 1).