

Ertixiite**Na₂Si₄O₉**

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Crystal Data: Cubic. **Point Group:** n.d. In granular crystals, to 0.5 mm.**Physical Properties:** *Fracture:* Subconchoidal. Hardness = 5.8–6.5 D(meas.) = 2.35
D(calc.) = 2.34**Optical Properties:** Transparent. *Color:* Colorless. *Streak:* White. *Luster:* Vitreous.
Optical Class: Isotropic. $n = 1.502(1)$ **Cell Data:** *Space Group:* n.d. $a = 5.975$ Z = 1**X-ray Powder Pattern:** Altay mine, China.
1.798 (100), 1.996(80), 3.443 (20), 2.988 (20), 2.674 (20)**Chemistry:**

	(1)	(2)
SiO ₂	77.86	79.50
Al ₂ O ₃	1.45	
FeO	0.04	
CaO	2.82	
Na ₂ O	17.98	20.50
Total	100.15	100.00

(1) Altay mine, China; by electron microprobe, average of six analyses. (2) Na₂Si₄O₉.**Occurrence:** As linings of miarolitic cavities in a Ta-Nb-Be-bearing granite pegmatite.**Association:** Topaz, albite, muscovite, quartz, apatite, garnet.**Distribution:** From the Altay pegmatite mine, Fuyun Co., 600 km northeast of Urumchi, Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region, China.**Name:** For the Ertixi River, near the occurrence in China.**Type Material:** The Geological Museum, Chengdu Geological College, [Ch'engdu], China.**References:** (1) Zhang Rubo, Han Fengming, and Du Chonliang (1985) Ertixiite – a new mineral from the Altay pegmatite mine, Xinjiang, China. *Geochemistry (China)*, 4, 192–195.
(2) (1986) Amer. Mineral., 71, 1544 (abs. ref. 1). (3) (1988) *Mineral. Mag.*, 52, 724 (abs. ref. 1).