Oskarssonite AlF₃

Crystal Data: Hexagonal. *Point Group*: $\frac{3}{2}$ 2/m. Forms a fine grained powder.

Physical Properties: Cleavage: n.d. Fracture: n.d. Tenacity: n.d. Hardness = n.d. D(meas.) = n.d. D(calc.) = 3.184

Optical Properties: Translucent. *Color*: White to grayish yellow. *Streak*: n.d. *Luster*: n.d.

Optical Class: Uniaxial (+). $\omega = 1.3765$ $\varepsilon = 1.3770$ [Synthetic AlF₃]

Cell Data: Space Group: $R\overline{3}$ c. a = 4.9817(4) c = 12.387(1) Z = 6

X-ray Powder Pattern: Eldfell volcano, Heimaey Island, Vestmannaeyjar archipelago, Iceland. 3.54 (100), 1.771 (20), 1.59 (15), 2.131 (13), 1.574 (10), 2.06 (8), 1.61(8)

Chemistry:

	(1)	(2)
Al	31.70	32.13
F	58.41	67.87
O	9.22	
Total	99.33	100.00

(1) Eldfell volcano, Heimaey Island, Iceland; average of 5 electron microprobe analyses; corresponding to $Al(F_{2.62}(OH)_{0.49})_{\Sigma=3.11}$. (2) AlF_3 .

Occurrence: As sublimate encrustations deposited at 90 °C close to the surface of fumarole vents.

Association: Anhydrite, bassanite, gypsum, jarosite, anatase, hematite, opal, ralstonite, jacobssonite, meniaylovite.

Distribution: From the Eldfell volcano, Heimaey Island, Vestmannaeyjar archipelago, Iceland; also reported from Mount Erebus, Antarctica.

Name: Honors Niels Oskarsson (b. 1944), a prominent Icelandic volcanologist, in recognition of his work on Icelandic fumaroles.

Type Material: Icelandic Institute of Natural History, Gardabaer, Iceland (NI 24489), and the mineral collection, Natural History Museum of Denmark, Copenhagen (# 2012.112, 2012.113, 2012.114).

References: (1) Jacobsen, M.J., T. Balić-Žunić, D. Mitolo, A. Katerinopoulou, A. Garavelli, and S.P. Jacobsson (2014) Oskarssonite, AlF₃, a new fumarolic mineral from Eldfell volcano, Heimaey, Iceland. Mineral. Mag., 78(1), 215-222. (2) (2014) Amer. Mineral., 99, 1809-1810 (abs. ref. 1).