New Stability Diagrams of some Phyllosilicates in the SiO_2 — Al_2O_3 — K_2O — H_2O System

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Abstract: Aluminum is treated as a mobile, reactive component in newly designed stability diagrams for the SiO_2 — Al_2O_3 — K_2O — H_2O system. The diagrams show that the stability field of kaolinite is strongly dependent on pH at or below 6 \cdot 7 but at 6 \cdot 7 or greater the stability field is independent of pH, and also that in present sea water, K-mica is a stable phase with respect to kaolin minerals. Natural waters from present-day, kaolin-forming localities in Mexico and Kentucky are consistent with theoretical interpretations from these stability diagrams.

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