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Socorro, NM 87801

A DIVISION OF  
NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING & TECHNOLOGY

OPEN-FILE REPORT 290

HYDROCARBON SOURCE ROCK EVALUATION OF  
TRANSOCEAN, MAJOR WELL NO. 1  
SEC. 27, T4N, R6W, SOCORRO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

By  
G. S. Bayliss  
and  
R. R. Schwarzer

June 1987

NEW MEXICO HYDROCARBON SOURCE  
ROCK EVALUATION PROJECT

TRANSOCEAN, MAJOR WELL NO.1  
SEC.27, T4N, R6W, SOCORRO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO  
API NO. 30-053-20006  
NORTHWEST AREA  
GEOCHEM JOB NO. 3539

Prepared

for

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

by

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CONFIDENTIAL  
JUNE, 1987

NEW MEXICO HYDROCARBON SOURCE ROCK EVALUATION

WELL NAME:                    TRANSOCEAN, MAJOR WELL NO.1  
 API NO.:                     30-053-20006  
 AREA:                        NORTHWEST  
 LOCATION:                   SOCORRO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO        SEC.27, T4N, R6W  
 GEOCHEM JOB NO.:           3539  
 TOTAL DEPTH:                4690 ft.  
 INTERVAL SAMPLED:         3510-4520 ft.  
 TOTAL NUMBER OF SAMPLES:  11

GEOCHEM SAMPLE NUMBER	SAMPLE DEPTH	STRATIGRAPHIC INTERVAL	ANALYSES				
			LITHO	TOC	ROCK-EVAL	KEROGEN	OTHER
3539-001	3510-3550	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	
3539-002	3590-3620	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	
3539-003	3660-3680	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	
3539-004	3680-3700	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	
3539-005	3740-3800	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	
3539-006	3800-3810	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	
3539-007	3850-3900	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	
3539-008	3930-3980	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	
3539-009	4100-4140	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	
3539-010	4320-4400	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	
3539-011	4450-4520	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	

# SUMMARY FIGURE 1

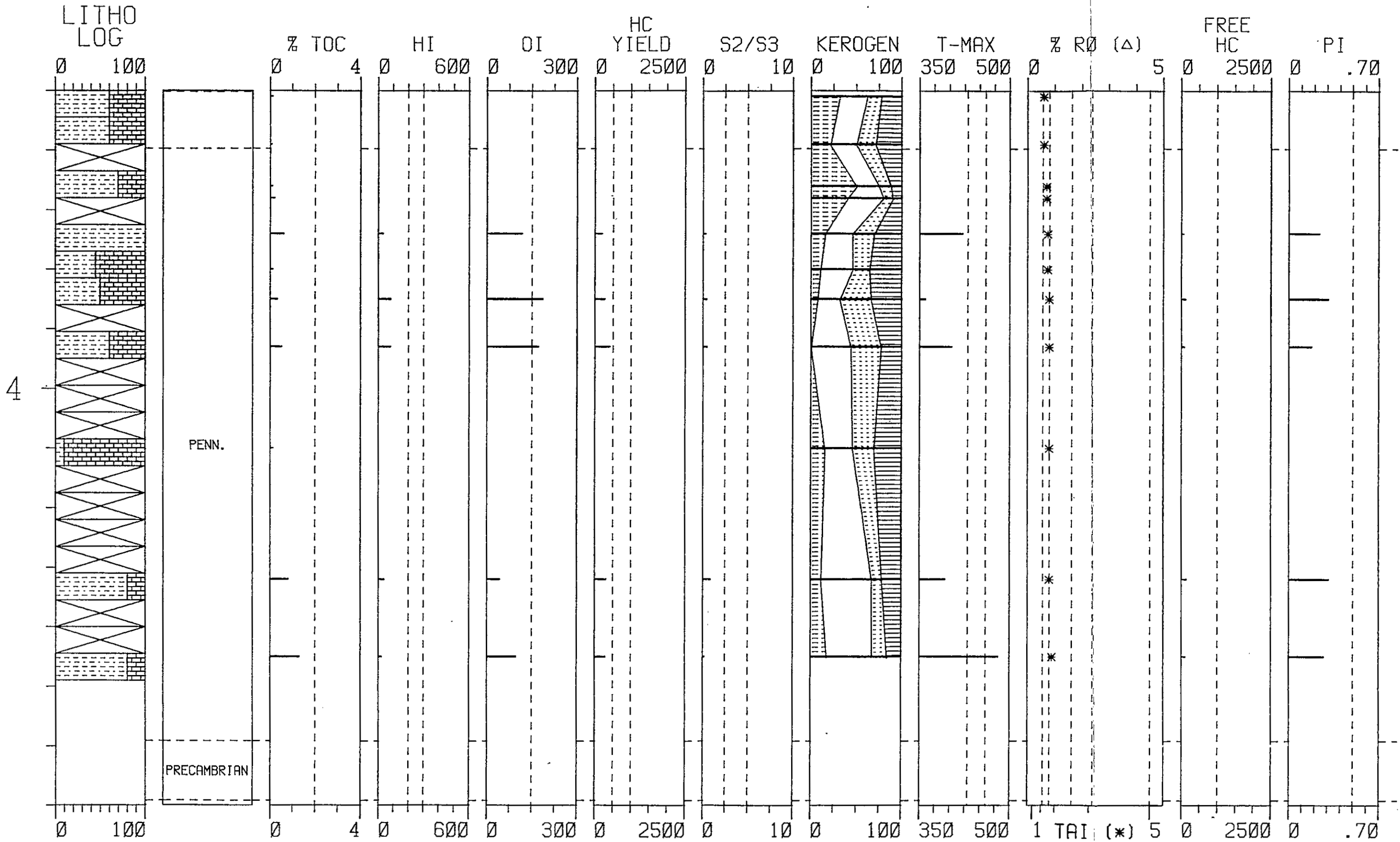


TABLE I

RESULTS OF TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON

NEW MEXICO HYDROCARBON SOURCE ROCK EVALUATION

TRANSOCEAN, MAJOR WELL NO.1  
SEC.27, T4N, R6W, SOCORRO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO  
API #30-053-20006

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GEOCHEM SAMPLE NUMBER	DEPTH INTERVAL (feet)	TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON (% of Rock)
3539-001	3510-3550	0.11
3539-002	3590-3620	0.08
3539-003	3660-3680	0.10
3539-004	3680-3700	0.19
3539-005	3740-3800	0.60/0.57
3539-006	3800-3810	0.12
3539-007	3850-3900	0.32
3539-008	3930-3980	0.51
3539-009	4100-4140	0.13/0.14
3539-010	4320-4400	0.81
3539-011	4450-4520	1.31

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TABLE II

LITHOLOGICAL DESCRIPTIONS AND ORGANIC CARBON ANALYSES

## NEW MEXICO HYDROCARBON SOURCE ROCK EVALUATION

TRANSOCEAN, MAJOR WELL NO.1  
 SEC.27, T4N, R6W, SOCORRO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO  
 API #30-053-20006

GEOCHEM SAMPLE NUMBER	DEPTH INTERVAL (feet)	LITHO DESCRIPTION	GSA NO.	ORGANIC CARBON (wt.%)
3539-001	3510-3550			0.11
-A		60% Mudstone, very calcareous, grayish red.	5R-4/2	
-B		40% Limestone, finely crystalline, white to medium light gray.	N9 to N6	
3539-002	3590-3620			0.08
-A		60% Mudstone, calcareous, medium dark gray.	N4	
-B		40% Limestone, finely crystalline, white to light gray.	N9 to N7	
3539-003	3660-3680			0.10
-A		55% Limestone, finely crystalline, white to light gray.	N9 to N7	
-B		45% Mudstone, calcareous, medium dark gray.	N4	
3539-004	3680-3700			0.19
-A		95% Mudstone, calcareous, medium dark gray.	N4	
-B		5% Limestone, finely crystalline, white to light gray.	N9 to N7	
3539-005	3740-3800			0.60/0.57
-A		100% Mudstone, very calcareous, medium dark gray.	N4	
3539-006	3800-3810			0.12
-A		55% Limestone, finely crystalline, white to light gray.	N9 to N7	

TABLE II (continued)

LITHOLOGICAL DESCRIPTIONS AND ORGANIC CARBON ANALYSES

## NEW MEXICO HYDROCARBON SOURCE ROCK EVALUATION

TRANSOCEAN, MAJOR WELL NO.1  
 SEC.27, T4N, R6W, SOCORRO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO  
 API #30-053-20006

GEOCHEM SAMPLE NUMBER	DEPTH INTERVAL (feet)	LITHO DESCRIPTION	GSA NO.	ORGANIC CARBON (wt.%)
3539-006 (continued)				
-B		45% Mudstone, calcareous, medium dark gray.	N4	
3539-007	3850-3900			0.32
-A		50% Mudstone, calcareous, medium dark gray.	N4	
-B		50% Limestone, granular, oolitic?, white to grayish brown. Trace wood fibers.	N9 to 5YR-3/2	
3539-008	3930-3980			0.51
-A		60% Mudstone, calcareous, medium dark gray.	N4	
-B		40% Limestone, finely crystalline, white to light gray.	N9 to N7	
3539-009	4100-4140			0.13/0.14
-A		90% Limestone, finely crystalline, white to light gray.	N9 to N7	
-B		10% Mudstone, calcareous, medium gray.	N5	
3539-010	4320-4400			0.81
-A		80% Mudstone, calcareous, dark gray.	N3	
-B		20% Limestone, finely crystalline, white to light gray.	N9 to N7	

TABLE II (continued)

LITHOLOGICAL DESCRIPTIONS AND ORGANIC CARBON ANALYSES

## NEW MEXICO HYDROCARBON SOURCE ROCK EVALUATION

TRANSOCEAN, MAJOR WELL NO.1  
 SEC.27, T4N, R6W, SOCORRO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO  
 API #30-053-20006

GEOCHEM SAMPLE NUMBER	DEPTH INTERVAL (feet)	LITHO DESCRIPTION	GSA NO.	ORGANIC CARBON (wt.%)
3539-011	4450-4520			1.31
-A		80% Mudstone, calcareous, dark gray.	N3	
-B		20% Limestone, finely crystalline, white to light gray.	N9 to N7	



TABLE III

SUMMARY OF ORGANIC CARBON AND VISUAL KEROGEN DATA

## NEW MEXICO HYDROCARBON SOURCE ROCK EVALUATION

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 SEC.27, T4N, R6W, SOCORRO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO  
 API #30-053-20006

GEOCHEM SAMPLE NUMBER	DEPTH INTERVAL (feet)	TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON	ORGANIC MATTER TYPE	VISUAL ABUNDANCE NORMALIZED PERCENT					ALTERATION STAGE	THERMAL ALTERATION INDEX
				Al	Am	H	W	I		
3539-001	3510-3550	0.11	Am-H;I;W	0	31	31	15	23	2	2.2
3539-002	3590-3620	0.08	H-I;Am-W;-	0	21	29	21	29	2	2.2
3539-003	3660-3680	0.10	Am;H;W-I	0	50	25	13	12	2 to 2+	2.3
3539-004	3680-3700	0.19	Am-H;-;W-I	0	40	40	10	10	2 to 2+	2.3
3539-005	3740-3800	0.60/0.57	H-I;W;Am	0	15	31	23	31	2 to 2+	2.4
3539-006	3800-3810	0.12	H-I;W;Am	0	10	36	18	36	2 to 2+	2.4
3539-007	3850-3900	0.32	W-I;H;Am	0	7	25	34	34	2 to 2+	2.5
3539-008	3930-3980	0.51	H;W;I	0	0	44	33	23	2 to 2+	2.5
3539-009	4100-4140	0.13/0.14	H-I;W;Am	0	15	31	23	31	2 to 2+	2.5
3539-010	4320-4400	0.81	H;I;Am-W	0	11	56	11	22	2 to 2+	2.5
3539-011	4450-4520	1.31	H;Am;W-I	0	19	55	18	18	2+	2.6

## LEGEND:

## KEROGEN KEY

Predominant; Secondary; Trace  
 60-100% 20-40% 0-20%

Al = Algal  
 Am = Amorphous-Sapropel  
 Am\* = Relic Amorphous-Sapropel  
 H = Herbaceous-Spore/Pollen  
 H\* = Degraded Herbaceous  
 W = Woody-Structured  
 U = Unidentified Material  
 I = Inertinite  
 C = Coaly

TABLE IV

RESULTS OF ROCK-EVAL PYROLYSIS ANALYSIS

## NEW MEXICO HYDROCARBON SOURCE ROCK EVALUATION

TRANSOCEAN, MAJOR WELL NO.1  
 SEC.27, T4N, R6W, SOCORRO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO  
 API #30-053-20006

GEOCHEM SAMPLE NUMBER	DEPTH INTERVAL (Feet)	TMAX (c)	S1 (mg/g)	S2 (mg/g)	S3 (mg/g)	PI	PC*	T.O.C. (wt.%)	HYDROGEN INDEX	OXYGEN INDEX
3539-001	3510-3550	273	0.01	0.02	0.31	0.50	0.00	0.11	18	281
3539-002	3590-3620	281	0.01	0.05	0.34	0.17	0.00	0.08	62	425
3539-003	3660-3680	294	0.02	0.06	0.43	0.25	0.00	0.10	60	430
3539-004	3680-3700	308	0.05	0.14	0.43	0.28	0.01	0.19	73	226
3539-005	3740-3800	421	0.06	0.19	0.70	0.25	0.02	0.60	31	116
3539-006	3800-3810	293	0.07	0.09	0.33	0.44	0.01	0.12	75	275
3539-007	3850-3900	360	0.12	0.27	0.60	0.32	0.03	0.32	84	187
3539-008	3930-3980	403	0.09	0.42	0.88	0.18	0.04	0.51	82	172
3539-009	4100-4140	273	0.01	0.06	0.43	0.17	0.00	0.13	46	330
3539-010	4320-4400	393	0.14	0.31	0.35	0.32	0.03	0.81	38	43
3539-011	4450-4520	481	0.11	0.29	1.28	0.27	0.03	1.31	22	97

T.O.C. = Total organic carbon, wt. %  
 S1 = Free hydrocarbons, mg HC/g of rock  
 S2 = Residual hydrocarbon potential  
 (mg HC/g of rock)

S3 = CO<sub>2</sub> produced from kerogen pyrolysis  
 (mg CO<sub>2</sub>/g of rock)  
 PC\* = 0.083 (S1 + S2)  
 Hydrogen  
 Index = mg HC/g organic carbon




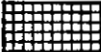






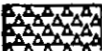




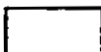
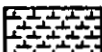

Oxygen  
 Index = mg CO<sub>2</sub>/g organic carbon  
 PI = S1/S1 + S2  
 TMAX = Temperature Index, degrees C.






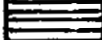
# LEGEND FOR SUMMARY DIAGRAM

<u>DEPTH:</u>	in feet
<u>LITHO LOG:</u>	see lithology symbols
<u>STRATIGRAPHY:</u>	by age
<u>% TOC:</u>	percent total organic carbon
<u>HI:</u>	Rock-Eval, Hydrocarbon Index = $100 S2(0/00 Wt)/TOC$
<u>OI:</u>	Rock-Eval, Oxygen Index = $100 S3(0/00 Wt)/TOC$
<u>HC YIELD:</u>	Rock-Eval, S2 peak (ppm)
<u>S2/S3:</u>	Rock-Eval, Ratio of S2 to S3 peak
<u>KEROGEN:</u>	see Kerogen symbols
<u>T-MAX:</u>	Rock-Eval, maximum temperature of S2 peak, in degrees Centigrade
<u>%RO ( ):</u>	Vitrinite Reflectance (scale 0 to 5)
<u>TAI (*):</u>	Thermal Alteration Index (Scale 1 to 5)
<u>FREE HC:</u>	Rock-Eval, S1 peak (ppm)
<u>PI:</u>	Rock-Eval, Productivity Index = $S1/(S1+S2)$

## LITHOLOGIES

	SHALE		SILICEOUS ROCKS
	MUDSTONE		EVAPORITES
	SILTSTONE		COAL
	SANDSTONE		IGNEOUS ROCKS
	CONGLOMERATE		VOLCANICS
	BRECCIA		METAMORPHIC ROCKS
	LIMESTONE		BASEMENT
	DOLOMITE		OTHER
	MARL		MISSING SECTION

## KEROGEN TYPES

	AMORPHOUS
	HERBACEOUS
	WOODY
	INERTINITE

## APPENDIX A

### Brief Description of Organic Geochemical analyses Carried Out by GeoChem

#### C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> Hydrocarbon

The C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> hydrocarbon content and composition of sediments reflects source type, source quality and thermal maturity.

The C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> hydrocarbon content of well cuttings is determined by analyzing both a sample of the cuttings and the air space at the top of the can. The results of the two analyses are summed to give an inventory of the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> hydrocarbon content of the well cuttings prior to any losses from the cuttings during the lapsed time period between collection at the wellsite and laboratory analysis.

The air space C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> hydrocarbon analysis involves taking a measured volume of the air space gas out of the can with a syringe and injecting same into a gas chromatograph. GeoChem uses a Varian Aerograph Model 1400 instrument equipped with a Porapak Q column. The gas sample is taken through the column by a carrier gas and before reaching the detector is separated into its various C<sub>1</sub> (methane), C<sub>2</sub> (ethane), C<sub>3</sub> (propane), iC<sub>4</sub> (isobutane), nC<sub>4</sub> (normal butane), and C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>, C<sub>7</sub> hydrocarbon components.

This particular analysis gives a complete separation of the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> gas-range hydrocarbons and a partial separation of the C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> gasoline-range hydrocarbons. (A detailed C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> analysis, to be discussed later, involving a capillary column, effects a complete separation of this molecular range into its several individual molecular species.)

The electrical response of the various hydrocarbons as they reach the detector is recorded on a paper strip chart as a peak. This response is simultaneously fed to an integrator which computes the area of each peak. The concentration of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> hydrocarbons in the air space, expressed as volumes of gas per million volumes of cuttings, is determined by a calculation involving the volume of cuttings, volume of air space in the can, volume of sample injected, volume of standard gas sample used in the calibration, calibration factor for C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>3</sub>, etc. determined by gc analysis of a standard gas sample, and the gc peak response.

The C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> hydrocarbon content of the cuttings is determined by degasification of a measured volume of cuttings (in a medium of a measured volume of water) in a closed blender, sampling of the air space at the top of the blender, and injection of a measured volume of gas into the gas chromatograph.

The C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> hydrocarbon data from the air space and cuttings gas analyses are summed to give a "restored" C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> hydrocarbon content of the cuttings.

#### Sample Washing and Hand-Picking of Uncaved Lithology Samples

The cuttings samples are washed to remove all drilling mud from the cuttings. Care is taken in the washing procedure not to remove any soft clays, claystones, etc. and any loose fine sand and silt. The washed cuttings are usually kept under water cover until picked, to prevent loss of any gasoline-range hydrocarbons. Using the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> hydrocarbon data profile and the electrical well log supplied to us and our visual examination of the cuttings material under the binocular microscope, we carefully hand-pick and describe a suite of uncaved lithologies representative of the various stratigraphic zones penetrated by the well. The lithological data is used to compile a gross litho percentage log which is shown on all Figures. The 2-4 gram picked lithology samples are stored under water in small glass vials in those instances where we wish to run detailed C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> hydrocarbon analyses. This sample set is used not only for the C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> hydrocarbon analysis, but also for the visual kerogen and total organic carbon analyses. All remaining cuttings material is dried and packaged in labelled plastic bags for possible C<sub>15+</sub> soxhlet extraction and/or eventual return to the client. Sample material from this study will be retained at GeoChem until advised of disposition.

#### Detailed C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> Hydrocarbon

The C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> gasoline-range hydrocarbon content of sediments reflects source quality, thermal maturation and organic facies. Compositional data can be used in crude oil-parent rock correlation work.

The C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> hydrocarbon content and detailed molecular composition of hydrocarbon, in hand-picked lithologies, is determined by a gc analysis of the light hydrocarbon extracted from 1-2 gram cuttings samples macerated in a microblender. A measured volume of sample is placed in a sealed microblender along with a measured volume of hot water. The rock sample is pulverized by the blades of the blender. A sample of the liberated light hydrocarbons which collect in the air space at the top of the blender is injected into our Varian Aerograph 1400 gc unit which is equipped with a capillary column. Data recording, computations, etc. are comparable to those used for the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> analysis discussed previously in this report. Hydrocarbon concentration is expressed as volume gas per million volumes of cuttings.

#### Organic Carbon

The total organic carbon content of a rock is a measure of its total organic richness. This data is used, in conjunction with visual kerogen and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> and C<sub>15+</sub> hydrocarbon content of a rock, to indicate the hydrocarbon source quality of rocks.

The procedure for determining the total organic carbon content of a rock involves drying the sample, grinding to a powder, weighing out 0.2729 gram sample into a crucible, acidizing with hot and cold hydrochloric acid to remove calcium and magnesium carbonate, and carbon analysis by combustion in a Leco carbon analyzer.

We run several blank crucibles, standards (iron rings of known carbon content) and duplicate rock samples in this analysis at no additional charge to the client for purposes of data quality control.

#### C<sub>15+</sub> Soxhlet Extraction, Deasphalting and Chromatographic Separation

The amount and composition of the organic matter which can be solvent-extracted from a rock reflects source quality and source type. C<sup>13</sup>/C<sup>12</sup> carbon isotopic, high mass spectrometric and gc analyses of the paraffin-naphthene and aromatic hydrocarbon fractions of the soluble extract gives data which is used in crude oil-parent rock correlations. This analysis involves grinding of a dry rock sample to a powder and removal of the soluble organic matter by soxhlet extraction using a co-distilled toluene-methanol azeotrope solvent. Where the amount of available sample material permits, we like to use at least 100 grams of rock for this analysis.

The extracted bitumen is separated into an asphaltene (ASPH) and a pentane soluble fraction by normal pentane precipitation. The pentane soluble components are separated into a C<sub>15+</sub> paraffin-naphthene (P-N) hydrocarbon, C<sub>15+</sub> aromatic hydrocarbon (AROM) and C<sub>15+</sub> nitrogen-sulfur-oxygen containing fraction (NSO) by adsorption chromatography on a silica gel-alumina column using pentane, toluene and toluene-methanol azeotrope eluants.

## GC Analysis of C<sub>15+</sub> Paraffin-Naphthene (P-N) Hydrocarbons

The content and molecular composition of the heavy C<sub>15+</sub> paraffin-naphthene (P-N) hydrocarbons of rocks, as determined by gc analysis, reflects source quality, source type and degree of thermal maturation.

In this analysis, we subject a very small fraction of the total amount of the P-N fraction extracted from a rock sample to gc analysis. The gas chromatograph is a Varian Aerograph Model 1400 equipped with a solid rod injection system and a eutectic column.

The calculated C. P. I. (carbon preference index) values for the normal paraffin data is defined as the mean of two ratios which are determined by dividing the sum of concentrations of odd-carbon numbered n-paraffins by the sum of even-carbon numbered n-paraffins. The C. P. Indices A and B were obtained by the formulas:

$$C.P. \text{ Index A} = \frac{C_{21}+C_{23}+C_{25}+C_{27}}{C_{22}+C_{24}+C_{26}+C_{28}} + \frac{C_{21}+C_{23}+C_{25}+C_{27}}{C_{20}+C_{22}+C_{24}+C_{26}}$$

$$C.P. \text{ Index B} = \frac{C_{25}+C_{27}+C_{29}+C_{31}}{C_{26}+C_{28}+C_{30}+C_{32}} + \frac{C_{25}+C_{27}+C_{29}+C_{31}}{C_{24}+C_{26}+C_{28}+C_{30}}$$

### Visual Kerogen

A visual study of kerogen, the insoluble organic matter in rocks, can indicate the relative abundance, size, and state of preservation of the various recognizable kerogen types and thereby indicate the hydrocarbon source character of a rock. The color of the kerogen can be used to indicate the state of thermal maturity of the sediments (i.e. their time-temperature history). Thermal maturation plays an important role in the generation of hydrocarbons from organic matter, and also affects the composition of reservoir hydrocarbons.

Our procedure for visual kerogen slide preparation involves isolation of the organic matter of a rock by removal of the rock material with hydrochloric and hydrofluoric acid treatment and heavy liquid separation. This procedure is comparable to that used by the palynologist except it does not include an oxidation stage. (The oxidation treatment is deleted from our procedure because it removes a great deal of kerogen and blanches any remaining kerogen to an extent whereby it is useless for our kerogen color observations.) The kerogen residue is mounted on a glass slide and is examined visually under a high power microscope.

### Vitrinite Reflectance

Measurement of the reflectivity of vitrinite particles (%R<sub>o</sub>) present in the kerogen isolated from sedimentary rocks provides a method of determining the state of maturation, and the diagenetic (time-temperature) history of the organic matter present in the sediments.

The kerogen, obtained from a 25 gram aliquot of crushed rock by the acid procedure previously discussed, is dried and embedded in a Bioplastic plug. The surface of the plug is polished using 0.05 micron alumina and the reflectivity determined under oil using a Ziess high resolution microscope. A minimum of 40 values are required to adequately determine the Maturation Rank.

### Fluorescence Spectrophotometric Analysis

Fluorescence spectrophotometry can be used to characterize and fingerprint crude oils, establish crude oil-source rock relationships, and to measure the hydrocarbon source potential of fine-grained sediments.

A one (1) microliter aliquot of either (I) a crude oil or (II) the solvent extractable rock bitumen, is passed through an alumina silica gel micro column and the C<sub>10+</sub> aromatic hydrocarbons isolated. The aromatic hydrocarbon is diluted and the emission and excitation spectra determined at 240 nm and 420 nm using a Perkin-Elmer Model 512 Double Beam Fluorescence Spectrophotometer.

## GEOTHERMAL DIAGENETIC CRITERIA

(GEOCHEM LABORATORIES, INC)

