New Mexico Bureau of Mines & Mineral Resources
Socorro, NM 87801

A DIVISION OF
NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING & TECHNOLOGY

Information: 505/835-5420
Publications: 505/835-5410

OPEN-FILE REPORT 330

HYDROCARBON SOURCE ROCK EVALUATION OF WITT ICE COMPANY, NO. 1 MEADOWS, SEC. 23, T6N, R7E, TORRANCE COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

G.S. Bayliss and R.R. Schwarzer

February 1988

NEW MEXICO HYDROCARBON SOURCE ROCK EVALUATION PROJECT

WITT ICE COMPANY, NO.1 MEADOWS
SEC.23, T6N, R7E, TORRANCE COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
API NO. 30-057-05002
NORTHEAST AREA
GEOCHEM JOB NO. 3619

Prepared

for

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

by

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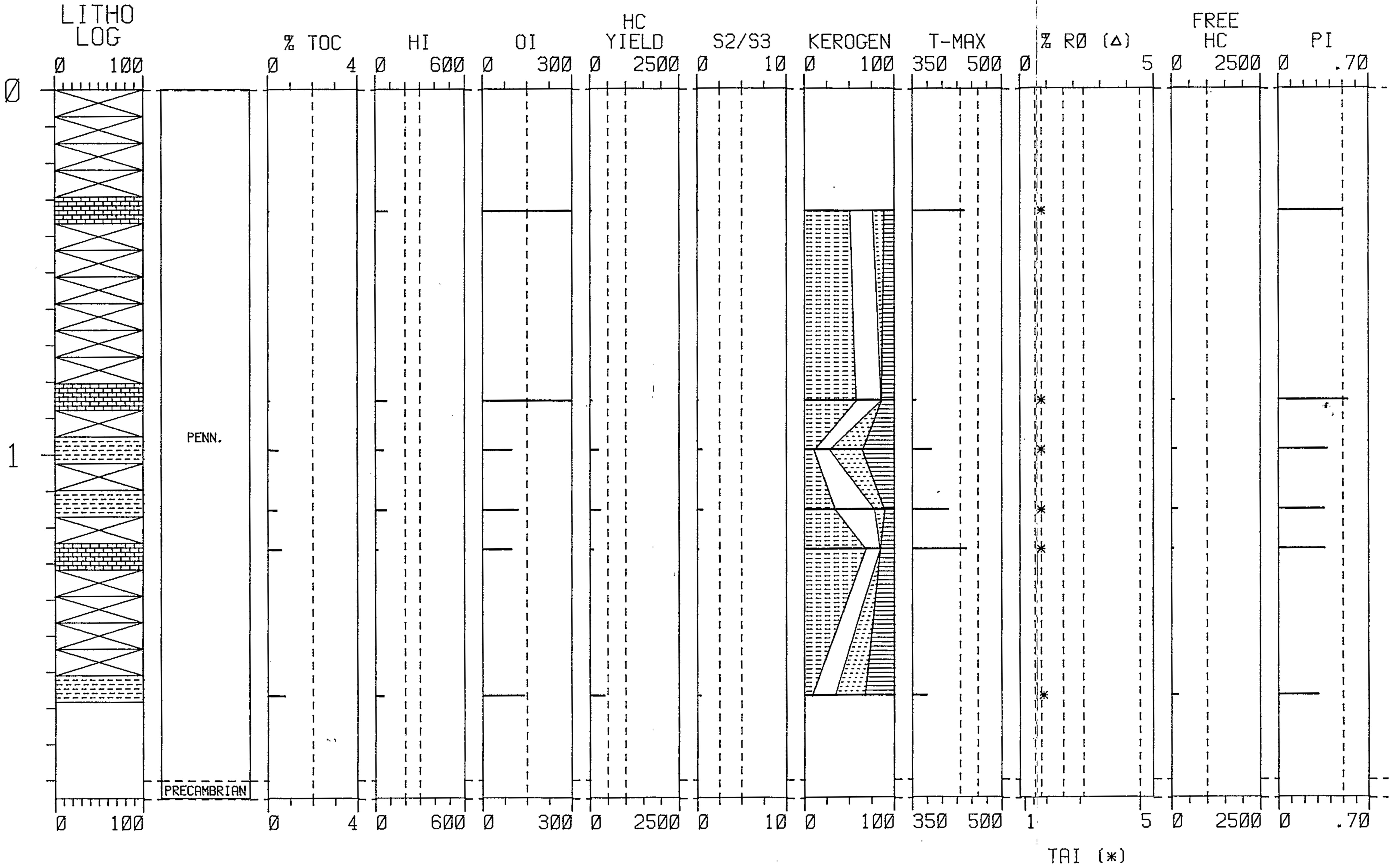
CONFIDENTIAL
FEBRUARY 1988

WITT ICE #1 MEADOWS
JOB NUMBER 3619

SUMMARY FIGURE 1



NEW MEXICO HYDROCARBON SOURCE ROCK EVALUATION

WELL NAME:	WITT ICE COMPANY, NO.1 MEADOWS
API NO.:	30-057-05002
AREA:	NORTHEAST
LOCATION:	TORRANCE COUNTY, NEW MEXICO SEC.23, T6N, R7E
GEOCHEM JOB NO.:	3619
TOTAL DEPTH:	1951 ft.
INTERVAL SAMPLED:	335-1729 ft.
TOTAL NUMBER OF SAMPLES:	6

GEOCHEM SAMPLE NUMBER	SAMPLE DEPTH	STRATIGRAPHIC INTERVAL	ANALYSES LITHO	TOC	ROCK-EVAL	KEROGEN	OTHER
3619-001	335-357	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	
3619-002	855-865	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	
3619-003	990-1050	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	
3619-004	1155-1200	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	
3619-005	1264-1300	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	
3619-006	1668-1729	Pennsylvanian	X	X	X	X	

TABLE I

RESULTS OF TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON

NEW MEXICO HYDROCARBON SOURCE ROCK EVALUATION

WITT ICE COMPANY, NO.1 MEADOWS
SEC.23, T6N, R7E, TORRANCE COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
API #30-057-05002

GEOCHEM SAMPLE NUMBER	DEPTH INTERVAL (feet)	TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON (% of Rock)
3619-001	335-357	0.05
3619-002	855-865	0.08
3619-003	990-1050	0.45/0.46
3619-004	1155-1200	0.40
3619-005	1264-1300	0.06
3619-006	1668-1729	0.75

TABLE II

LITHOLOGICAL DESCRIPTIONS AND ORGANIC CARBON ANALYSES

NEW MEXICO HYDROCARBON SOURCE ROCK EVALUATION

WITT ICE COMPANY, NO.1 MEADOWS
SEC.23, T6N, R7E, TORRANCE COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
API #30-057-05002

GEOCHEM SAMPLE NUMBER	**DEPTH INTERVAL (feet)**	**LITHO DESCRIPTION**	**GSA NO.**	**ORGANIC CARBON (wt.%)**
3619-001 -A	335-357	100% Limestone, fine crystalline, light brownish grey.	5YR-6/1	0.05
3619-002 -A	855-865	100% Limestone, fine crystalline, light brownish grey.	5YR-6/1	0.08
3619-003 -A	990-1050	100% Shale, calcareous, micaceous, medium dark gray to brownish grey.	N4 to 5YR-4/1	0.45/0.46
3619-004 -A	1155-1200	100% Shale, calcareous, micaceous, medium dark gray.	N4	0.40
3619-005 -A	1264-1300	100% Limestone, fine crystalline, light brownish grey.	5YR-6/1	0.60
3619-006 -A	1668-1729	100% Shale, calcareous, micaceous, medium dark gray.	N4	0.75

TABLE III

SUMMARY OF ORGANIC CARBON AND VISUAL KEROGEN DATA

NEW MEXICO HYDROCARBON SOURCE ROCK EVALUATION

WITT ICE COMPANY, NO.1 MEADOWS
SEC.23, T6N, R7E, TORRANCE COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
API #30-057-05002

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		
3619-001	335-357	0.05	Am;H;W-I	0	50	26	12	12	2 to 2+	2.5
3619-002	855-865	0.08	Am;H;I	0	57	28	0	15	2 to 2+	2.5
3619-003	990-1050	0.45/0.46	W-I;H;Am	0	10	18	36	36	2 to 2+	2.5
3619-004	1155-1200	0.40	H;Am;W-I	0	34	44	11	11	2 to 2+	2.5
3619-005	1264-1300	0.06	Am;-;H-I	0	68	16	0	16	2 to 2+	2.5
3619-006	1668-1729	0.75	W-I;H;Am	0	8	26	33	33	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

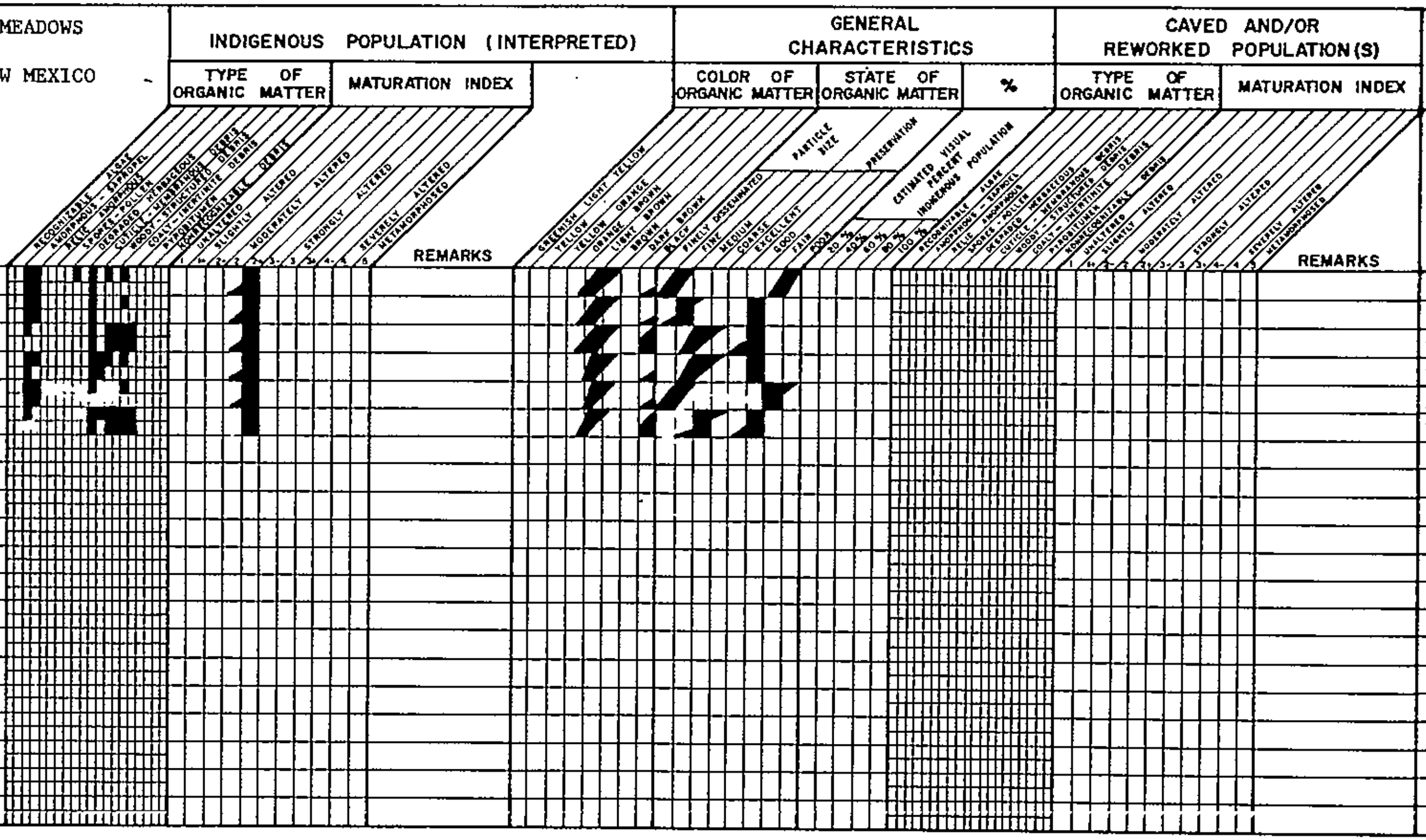
WITT ICE COMPANY, NO.1 MEADOWS
SEC.23, T6N, R7E, TORRANCE COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
API #30-057-05002

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
3619-001	335-357	437	0.04	0.04	0.32	0.50	0.00	0.05	80	640
3619-002	855-865	355	0.07	0.06	0.40	0.58	0.01	0.08	75	500
3619-003	990-1050	381	0.14	0.23	0.44	0.39	0.03	0.46	50	96
3619-004	1155-1200	410	0.16	0.29	0.48	0.36	0.03	0.40	73	120
3619-005	1264-1300	440	0.05	0.09	0.59	0.36	0.01	0.06	150	983
3619-006	1668-1729	374	0.18	0.40	1.04	0.31	0.04	0.75	53	139

T.O.C. = Total organic carbon, wt.%
S1 = Free hydrocarbons, mg Hc/g of rock
S2 = Residual hydrocarbon potential (mg HC/g or rock)
S3 = CO2 produced from kerogen pyrolysis (mg CO2/g of rock)
PC* = 0.083 (S1 + S2)
Hydrogen Index = mg HC/g organic carbon
Oxygen Index = mg CO2/g organic carbon
PI = S1/S1 + S2
TMAX = Temperature Index, degrees C.

TABLE V
VISUAL KEROGEN ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

WITT ICE CO., NO.1 MEADOWS
SEC.23, T6N, R7E
TORRANCE COUNTY, NEW MEXICO
API NO.
T.D. 1951'



GEOCHEM No.	DEPTH	SUMMARY ORGANIC MATTER TYPE
3619-001	335-357	Am;H;W-I
3619-002	855-865	Am;H;I
3619-003	990-1050	W-I;H;Am
3619-004	1155-1200	H;Am;W-I
3619-005	1264-1300	Am;-;H-I
3619-006	1668-1729	W-I;H;Am

LEGEND FOR SUMMARY DIAGRAM

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

LITHOLOGIES

- ▤ SHALE
- ▤ MUDSTONE
- ▤ SILTSTONE
- ⛆ SANDSTONE
- ▩ CONGLOMERATE
- ▩ BRECCIA
- ▦ LIMESTONE
- ▦ DOLOMITE
- ▦ MARL
- ▩ SILICEOUS ROCKS
- ▦ EVAPORITES
- ■ COAL
- ▨ IGNEOUS ROCKS
- ▩ VOLCANICS
- ▧ METAMORPHIC ROCKS
- ▩ BASEMENT
- □ OTHER
- ☒ MISSING SECTION

KEROGEN TYPES

- ▤ AMORPHOUS
- □ HERBACEOUS
- ⛆ WOODY
- ☰ INERTINITE

APPENDIX

Brief Description of Organic Geochemical analyses Carried Out by GeoChem

C_1-C_7 Hydrocarbon

The C_1-C_7 hydrocarbon content and composition of sediments reflects source type, source quality and thermal maturity.

The C_1-C_7 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_1-C_7 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_1-C_7 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 Porapeo 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_1 (methane), C_2 (ethane), C_3 (propane), iC_4 (isobutane), nC_4 (normal butane), and C_5, C_6, C_7 hydrocarbon components.

This particular analysis gives a complete separation of the C_1-C_4 gas-range hydrocarbons and a partial separation of the C_5-C_7 gasoline-range hydrocarbons. (A detailed C_4-C_7 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_1-C_7 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_1, C_2, C_3, etc. determined by gc analysis of a standard gas sample, and the gc peak response.

The C_1-C_7 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_1-C_7 hydrocarbon data from the air space and cuttings gas analyses are summed to give a "restored" C_1-C_7 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_1-C_7 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_4-C_7 hydrocarbon analyses. This sample set is used not only for the C_4-C_7 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_{15+} 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_4-C_7 Hydrocarbon

The C_4-C_7 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_4-C_7 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_1-C_7 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_1-C_4, C_4-C_7 and C_{15+} 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_{15+} Soxhlet Extraction, Deasphaltening 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^{13}/C^{12} 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_{15+} paraffin-naphthene (P-N) hydrocarbon, C_{15+} aromatic hydrocarbon (AROM) and C_{15+} 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_{15+} Paraffin-Naphthene (P-N) Hydrocarbons

The content and molecular composition of the heavy C_{15+} 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:

$$\text{C.P. Index A} = \frac{\dfrac{C_{21}+C_{23}+C_{25}+C_{27}}{C_{22}+C_{24}+C_{26}+C_{28}} + \dfrac{C_{21}+C_{23}+C_{25}+C_{27}}{C_{20}+C_{22}+C_{24}+C_{26}}}{2} \qquad \text{C.P. Index B} = \frac{\dfrac{C_{25}+C_{27}+C_{29}+C_{31}}{C_{26}+C_{28}+C_{30}+C_{32}} + \dfrac{C_{25}+C_{27}+C_{29}+C_{31}}{C_{24}+C_{26}+C_{28}+C_{30}}}{2}$$

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 reservoired 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_o) 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_{10+} 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.)