The Paleozoic formations are overlain by a thick Mesozoic sequence. The rock types are largely of terrestrial origin and include sandstone, mudstone, shale and coal.

Orogenic movement occurred near the close of Early Cretaceous time which folded, faulted and eroded the lower Cretaceous and older rocks. This was followed by deposition in Late Cretaceous and throughout most of Tertiary time. Deltaic deposits, which may interfinger with more marine beds eastward, were laid down in the western and central portions of the Gippsland Basin from Late Cretaceous through Paleocene and most of Eocene time. Epeirogenetic movement occurred from Late Cretaceous through Pliocene time. This resulted in the deposition of predominant sands and coals until the Oligocene when marine marls, mudstones and limestones were laid down. The sea regressed to its approximate present position near the middle of the Pliocene.

Structural movement, which was oriented generally northwesterly in the Paleozoic, was predominantly directed along east-northeast axes from the Mesozoic on. The Gippsland Basin which began to take form about Jurassic time had attained its present configuration by the early Tertiary.

The area herein referred to as East Tasmania involves Permits T/1P and T/9P. Little is known about the geology of this area, however, the possibility exists that the Gippsland Basin extends southward into the area, perhaps merging with a sedimentary trough more or less paralleling the east coast of Tasmania.

3. Northwestern Tasmania Area

Permits T/2P and T/10P lie west of King Island and the northwest coast of Tasmania at the margin of the