

be somewhat more argillaceous than is seen in the washed samples. Most of the clay fraction, probably up to 60% in places, washed out of the samples into the drilling fluid before it reached the shakers. What clays remained were mainly seen in unwashed samples and were highly dispersed and few if any discrete cuttings could be seen after washing. This was true in varying degree throughout the Eastern View Group so the rate of penetration curve and the electric log responses have been used to interpret the more argillaceous sections as shown in the interpreted lithology column on the Composite Well Log.

Coals are present from about 1300.0m. They are black, firm to hard and brittle, massive with an irregular to subconchoidal fracture and a dull to resinous lustre. Apart from being silty and sandy in parts the coals also contain amber as translucent, soft, friable blebs and lenses. The amber can be identified by its bright blue white fluorescence.

1544.0m to 1771.0m

Palynological interpretation shows that there is an unconformity at around the 1550.0m level. A radioactive sand seen on the electric logs at 1546.0m, with its base at 1549.0m, has been taken as the actual level of the unconformity between the lower N. asperus zone and the underlying P. asperopolus zone.

The rate of penetration, the sample descriptions and the electric logs indicate that the lithologies are basically the same over this interval as for the overlying sequence, essentially a predominantly sand-prone sequence of sandstones, claystones and coals.

1771.0m to 2328.0m

The top of the Paleocene has been defined by palynology which shows a change from the middle to lower M. diversus zone to the upper L. balmei zone between 1806.0m and 1842.0m. The electric logs show an increase in the claystone fraction in the sequence below 1771.0m, so the final top Paleocene has been placed there.

While the previously described unconsolidated sandstones persist below this depth the sandstones generally become more variable in character. Two additional sandstone types are present, white, soft to hard, fine to very fine occasionally medium-grained sandstones and light brown, very fine, moderately sorted sandstones with varying amounts of argillaceous matrix. Both grade locally into siltstones and are interbedded with light brown and greyish brown claystones throughout this section.

The Upper Paleocene was prognosed to be at 1889.0m it came in 118.0m high at 1771.0m.