

phosphoritica and Corrudinium incompositum, all indicating a general mid Eocene or younger age. The deepest sample (1548m) contained only a single dinoflagellate that may well have been caved, given the cuttings nature of the samples.

Marginally marine environments (possibly non-marine at the base) are indicated by the total dominance of spores and pollen, the common cuticle, and the very scarce low diversity dinoflagellates.

Spore colours of mid to dark yellow indicate immaturity for hydrocarbons.

E. 1565-1596m (cutts) : P. asperopolus

Assignment to the Proteacidites asperopolus Zone is indicated at the top by the presence of common Haloragacidites harrisii and at the base by the oldest occurrence of P. asperopolus. Some lower N. asperus caving is evident, including Nothofagidites falcatus and Periporopollenites vesicus.

No age diagnostic dinoflagellates were seen. Only very rare long ranging species were observed, but they may all be caved.

Non-marine environments are most likely, on regional geological grounds, and on the absence of dinoflagellates from one sample (1565m) and their probably caved origin in the other. Spores and pollen and cuticle fragments are common in both samples.

Spore colours of yellow to light brown indicate immaturity for hydrocarbons.

F. 1600-1635m (cutts) : upper M. diversus Zone