

SUMMARY

1680 m (cutts) - (1810 m swc) 1832 m (cutts) : middle N. asperus Zone : late Eocene : nearshore marine : immature.

1832 m (cutts) - 2048 m (cutts) : lower N. asperus Zone : middle Eocene : marginal marine : marginally mature.

2066 m (cutts) - 2174 m (cutts) : P. asperopolus Zone : middle Eocene : non-marine : marginally mature.

2210 m (cutts) - 2444 m (cutts) : upper M. diversus Zone : early Eocene : marginal marine to nearshore marine : marginally mature at the top, mature at the base with rare fully mature and post-mature grains.

2454 m (cutts) - 2508 m (cutts) : middle M. diversus Zone : early Eocene : marginal marine : mature at the top, fully mature to post-mature at the base.

2528 m (cutts) - 2555 m (cutts) : indeterminate : rare post-mature and mature grains seen.

2573 m (cutts) - 2630 m (swc) : middle M. diversus Zone : early Eocene : marginal marine : mature.

2675 m (cutts) - 2783 m (cutts) : lower M. diversus Zone : early Eocene : marginal marine : mature with vast range of maturity seen in cuttings samples.

2801 - 2881 m (cutts) : upper L. balmei : late Paleocene : non-marine : fully mature.

2885 m (swc) - (3028 m swc) 3052 m (cutts) : lower L. balmei : early Paleocene : non-marine : fully mature becoming post-mature at the base.

INTRODUCTION

Thirteen samples were examined on a "quick look" basis to provide control during the drilling of the well. Forty-one more samples (thirteen sidewall cores and twenty-eight cuttings samples) have been subsequently processed and examined in detail. All samples are reported herein. The samples examined during drilling are shown on the range charts with an asterisk.

Palynomorph occurrence data are presented in Appendix A, and are the basis for the assignment of the studied section to eight spore-pollen Zones of Paleocene to late Eocene age. The zonation is that of Stover and Evans (1973) and Stover and Partridge (1973), set up in the Gippsland Basin, and modified for the Bass Basin by Partridge (1973).

No formal dinoflagellate zonation has been published for the Gippsland or Bass Basins, although Harris (1985) has recently published some dinoflagellate zones for part of the Eocene of the Otway and St. Vincent Basins. Partridge (1976) published a table showing zone names in the Gippsland Basin but charts defining these zones were never published. Neither of these zonations are entirely relevant, but elements of them are discussed herein.